

THE *Country* GUIDE



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OCTOBER, 1953

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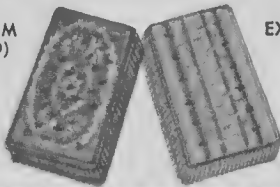
See how the ordinary inner spring "hammocks" under weight. Compare Beautyrest's independent coil springing, giving complete relaxation.



837 individually pocketed springs in Beautyrest act independently, can't pull each other down. Give firm, buoyant support to every body curve.

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(STANDARD)



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Both available with matching box springs
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Air vents allow free circulation of air inside the Beautyrest Mattress to keep it fresh. Taped handles are for added convenience in handling.



Precision "Jiffy-Join" tufting prevents side-sway and sag, and keeps everything in position. This insures uniformity and cannot be felt by the sleeper.



Photo by Eva Luoma



Mrs. Theo Croner of New York does lots of housework but manages to be pretty as a picture.

THE *Country* GUIDE

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"I wash 1400 pounds of laundry a year... but I'm proud of my pretty hands!"

If you ever meet Theo Croner, be sure to shake hands. You'll notice that hers are as soft and pretty as a pair of hands can be.

Yet Mrs. Croner (just like yourself) washes almost a ton of laundry each year. And plenty of it the hard way — by hand!

She's grateful for detergents, of course. Those miracle suds really chase grease and dirt. But detergents are a problem, too. That same grease-eating action could send the natural oils and youthful softness of her hands down the drain, too.

Throw out detergents? Not Theo! She's found a way to keep her hands lovely despite all harsh cleansers. It's a simple trick, and we'll teach it to you. After every chore, always

remember to smooth some pure, white Jergens Lotion on, right away.

You won't see any sticky film. Being a liquid, Jergens Lotion doesn't just "coat" the hands. It penetrates — helps *replace* softening moisture. (It has two ingredients

doctors use for softening.) More women use Jergens than any other hand care in the world.

Theo Croner will tell you that Jergens Lotion is the reason her hands are so attractive. Her husband may not know the reason, but he appreciates it!

So keep detergents in your house (there's nothing like them). Just keep Jergens Lotion in kitchen and bath, and use it often. It's such an easy habit, and so important to a woman.



Use JERGENS LOTION — avoid detergent hands

The Big Favorite now has
20% MORE POWER



Now your big acreage will be easier to operate at a profit! With the great new McCormick Super WD-9 Diesel those time-killing drawbar jobs will be done far faster, without extra manpower. And you won't have to settle for anything less than the deep, thorough tillage you want, because here's *extra power* to walk away with those thorough-going, acre-eating implements—at faster field speeds than ever before. And all the while you'll enjoy the advantages of IH full Diesel economy, with easy all-weather starting *plus* new driver comfort and convenience. Ask your IH Dealer for a free demonstration of this great new McCormick Super WD-9 tractor—IH built for bigger, better, more profitable farming.



LEADING THE PARADE OF PROGRESS ON THE FARM

In the last 24 months IH has built for you a long list of new farm machines, INCLUDING THE REVOLUTIONARY FARMALL SUPER C FAST HITCH; new lines of motor trucks; new lines of refrigerators, freezers, room conditioners and dehumidifiers. As in the past — International Harvester continues to lead the farm equipment industry in bringing you new labor-saving machines designed to increase production and cut costs. See them at your IH Dealer's — try them with full assurance. They are part of International Harvester's continuing program of product development and improvement to provide you with equipment keyed to today's farm production problems.

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NEW MCCORMICK
SUPER WD-9*

DIESEL TRACTOR

- 20% More Horsepower
- Faster Field Speeds
- Double Disc Brakes
- Plows 31½ Acres per day
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Belt and drawbar horsepower of the Super WD-9 are increased 20%, giving 64 hp. on the belt and 58 hp. on the drawbar. When equipped with extra large or dual rear tires, the Super WD-9 can handle those big-capacity implements normally pulled by track-type tractors, at twice their speed. You plow with six 14-inch bottoms in 3rd gear at 4½ mph. — 31½ acres per day! New self-energizing double disc brakes give quick stopping of forward or reverse motion and easy maneuvering. Considering its low initial cost and tremendous pulling power at high field speeds, the Super WD-9 is today's **outstanding tractor value**. Try it—compare it!

INTERNATIONAL

HARVESTER

INTERNATIONAL HARVESTER COMPANY OF CANADA LIMITED, HAMILTON, ONTARIO

Under the Peace Tower

by HUGH BOYD

WHEN Parliament is in session, such a variety of things are going on that it is difficult to keep up with them all. Hence, quite important decisions are made from time to time, without very much attention being paid to them by the members or the public.

A curious example of this is the government's decision—confirmed perfunctorily by Parliament—to move the National Film Board, minus its administrative core, from Ottawa to Montreal. There were rumors of this move as far back as early 1951.

In the Public Works estimates for 1951-52 appeared an item of \$300,000 for acquisition of property for the Film Board. The item passed without criticism.

Then last February a Montreal Liberal was told that work would start this year on a building in the Ville St. Laurent district of Montreal, to house the operating section of the Film Board. A little later, a British Columbia Conservative criticized the cost of the property, but indicated no particular opposition to the move itself. No one else did either. An item of \$900,000 for the building appeared in the Public Works estimates for 1953-54 and, with scarcely a question asked, sailed through merrily.

The Film Board is being shifted to Montreal, it appears, for these main reasons: The government deems it better to have the film makers located in a larger center, where they would rub shoulders with other creative minds and derive the resultant benefits of example and competition. The board is also expected to take an active part in the production of films for that new and insatiable monster, television. Montreal is on the main stream of TV, and it possesses a large pool of bilingual artistic talent—or more accurately, of French-speaking talent.

The government also believes in a measure of decentralization of its activities. It considers the Film Board to be an appropriate candidate for decentralization, on the ground that the civil service atmosphere of the capital is not supposed to be good for initiative and creativeness. This is highly debatable.

One of the Ottawa newspapers finally began to poke around and concluded that moving the board was something more than losing about a thousand people (including families of board employees) from the city of Ottawa. Since then, civic leaders have become aroused.

NO one in western Canada, or in any other section of the country outside Ottawa, could take the slightest interest in the Film Board's domicile, if it were only a municipal matter. Ottawa's screams could then be branded as strictly parochial. But inquiry seems to show that there is something more than a local issue involved.

One point is that a metropolitan "pool of talent" is not of vital importance to the board, because, for the most part, it takes its actors where it finds them, on location, all over



Canada. This reliance on home-grown actors (miners, wheat growers, fishermen, and so on), who make up in authenticity what they lack in slickness, is one of the reasons why Film Board documentaries have won a reputation in this country and also beyond its borders.

Moreover, the teams who make these films have a unique place in Ottawa, in which to do their preliminary research. This is the national capital. There is not a matter pertaining to Canada, in one form or another, that someone working in Ottawa cannot discuss with authority—whether it be the life history of the wheatstem sawfly or the laws of marine salvage. Apart from government departments which reach out into the nation's activities, a host of national organizations—the Canadian Federation of Agriculture among them—have their headquarters in the capital.

The question of the Film Board's habitat may perhaps be seen in a clearer light, if one refers to the Act of 1939 which brought it into existence. According to this legislation, the duty of the board is "to help Canadians in all parts of Canada to understand the ways of living and the problems of Canadians in other parts."

So far, this task has been carried out by teams operating from the national capital as a base. Studio operations mean little, and television shows will also mean little, for a long time to come, as far as a large area of Canada is concerned.

There is a question, indeed, whether the National Film Board can shift its center of gravity to TV production without impairing its original function. Different techniques are involved, for one thing. Up to now, the board has had some considerable success in turning out good documentary pictures about Canada, and in working with rural film circuits and other agencies, to bring these (and films in general) to country audiences whose movie fare had been skimpy.

Much still remains to be done, but there is room for doubt that transfer to the metropolis of Montreal will justify the added expense by furthering the objectives of the National Film Board as conceived by Parliament in 1939.

Give it the Jolts... keep getting the "VOLTS"



from this "Plate-Anchored"
Tractor Battery by

Willard

Cross old crop rows, ruts or drill-ridge stubble—and even if your tractor bumps and shakes and jolts and jars the living stuffing out of you, and acts like a bucking broncho—your new Tractor Battery by Willard can take it. And it can keep on taking rough-and-tumble tractor duty; can continue to deliver you the all-weather starting power it's supposed to!

For this is the Plate-Anchored Willard, the only battery with the four big extras!

- **NEW PLATE ANCHOR**—An acid-proof, molded rubber anchor that holds plates rigidly in place and improves battery life. Exclusively Willard.

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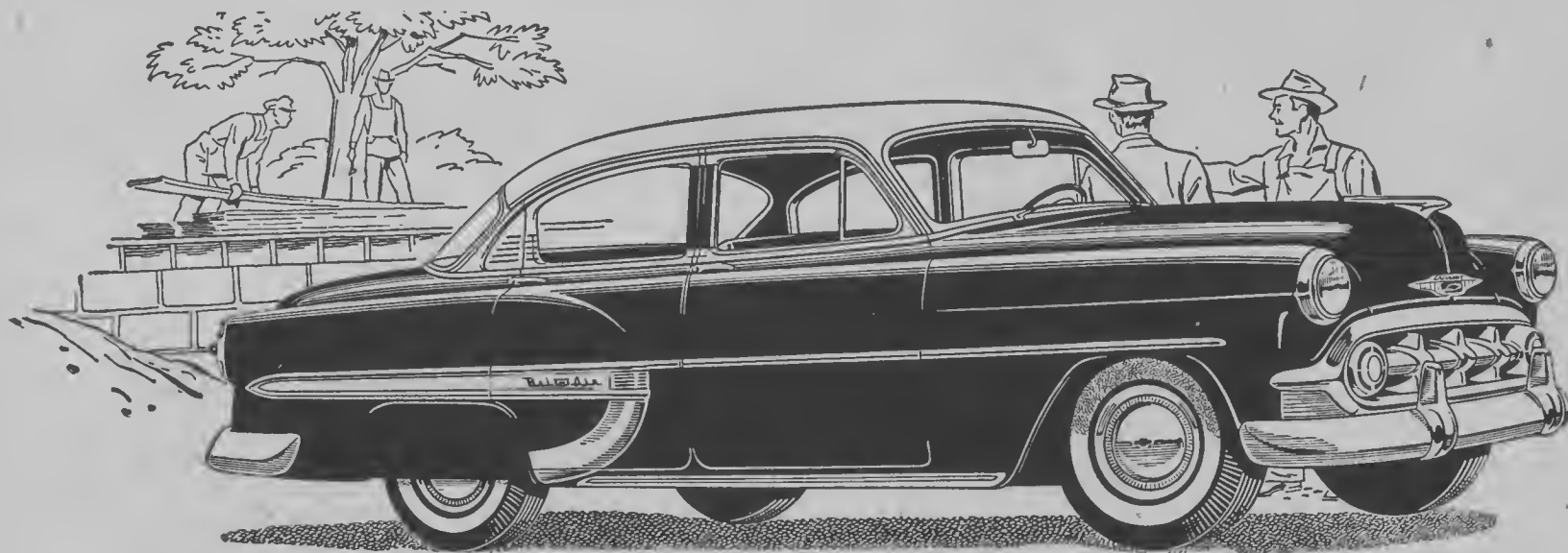
- **NEW RUBBER INSULATOR** — Improves circulation of electrolyte. Firmly supports plates and reduces wear due to vibration. Exclusively Willard.

- **NEW DESIGN RUBBER CONTAINER** — Strong, tough, heat resistant. Built to last in severe tractor service.

Exclusive WILLARD "SAFETY-FILL" Construction
to prevent overfilling

WILLARD STORAGE BATTERY CO. OF CANADA LTD., TORONTO, ONTARIO

● This advertisement is designed to give you, as a prospective buyer, detailed and helpful information. We'd be happy to have your comments about this type of advertising. Just drop a line to the Advertising Department, General Motors Products of Canada, Oshawa, Ont.



This is the 1953 Chevrolet Bel Air 4-Door Sedan. It's one of 16 Chevrolet models in 3 series, which add up to the widest choice in the low-price field. A General Motors Value.

Some Chevrolet advantages worth considering when you're ready to choose a car . . .

Next to a new house, a car is probably your most important purchase. Here are some facts to help you make up your mind about which make to buy.

Isn't it a great day — the day you take delivery of a new car? You drive home cautiously and proudly, inhaling that wonderful new car aroma. Then you park out in front, while your friends and neighbors gather round to talk over your choice with you.

Naturally, you want that feeling of pride and satisfaction to last. So it's worthwhile to weigh all factors carefully before you buy. Let's consider the important reasons why people choose one make over another and see how Chevrolet stands in those respects.

Styling You Can Stay Proud Of

Styling of course, is a matter of personal taste. Because we think Chevrolet is the best-looking car in its field, doesn't necessarily mean you'll think so, too. But we can tell you that the majority of our showroom visitors prefer Chevrolet styling and compare its appearance most favorably with cars costing a great deal more.

And you might consider this: Chevrolet styling is the newest in its field. It's the kind of styling that stays new, too. For it is based, not on temporary fads or extremes, but on the fundamentals of good, clean, modern design.

The One Automobile Body Almost Everybody Knows

It's not really surprising that so many people prefer Chevrolet's appearance. For Chevrolet is the lowest-priced, full size car in its field with Body by Fisher. And Fisher, as you know, is the only automobile body manufacturer with a worldwide reputation for styling, craftsmanship and quality.

Many of Canada's highest-priced cars feature Body by Fisher. Because of quantity purchases of materials and greater production, Fisher can—and does—build extra quality into Chevrolet body and interiors.

The Many Benefits of High-Compression Power

When you drive a new Chevrolet (and we hope you'll do that soon), you'll notice these things: faster acceleration from a standing start; greater passing ability in traffic and on the highway; the new ease with which you climb steep hills.

These are just some of the benefits of Chevrolet's new high-compression power. In gearshift models, there is an entirely new 108-h.p. "Thrift-King" engine with a 7.1 to 1 compression ratio. Teamed with the new Powerglide automatic transmission there is also an entirely new 115-h.p. "Blue-Flame" engine with an extra high compression ratio of 7.5 to 1.

A Great Gain in Gasoline Economy

Along with remarkable new performance, Chevrolet's advanced engines give you far greater gasoline mileage. In fact, this year marks the most important gain in economy in Chevrolet history. And that includes substantial savings on over-all upkeep, as well as on gasoline.

New Getaway in the New Powerglide*

Chevrolet brought you the first automatic transmission in its field. And now Chevrolet brings you the newest and most advanced one. The new Powerglide automatically drops into "Low" range for starting and for passing in city traffic. Then, as you glide along, it slips smoothly and almost imperceptibly into cruising range. The results are much faster and more positive acceleration, and much lower fuel consumption.

One of the things we're particularly anxious for you to try out is the performance and driving ease of this new Powerglide.

The First Power Steering in a Low-Priced Car

Chevrolet offers you the extra ease and convenience of Power Steering, optional at extra cost. With it, you can spin the wheel with the strength of one finger. You can seesaw in and out of tight parking places without the slightest strain. You get an additional cushion against road shocks and jars.

A Smoother and a Safer Ride

Comfort's a big consideration to almost every buyer. And almost every car claims to be exceptionally com-

fortable. Well, here are some facts bearing on comfort that you can judge for yourself.

To begin with, Chevrolet has ample weight to give a good, road-hugging ride. It isn't just weight that's been added indiscriminately, it's weight that comes from Chevrolet's extra strength, weight that means extra protection and safety because it's been utilized in strengthening body and frame.

Then, Chevrolet is the lowest priced car with Unitized Kneq-Action. That means that the entire front suspension system is assembled and balanced as a separate unit. Only Chevrolet takes this extra step.

And as you go smoothly, so you stop smoothly. Chevrolet's new brakes with their 11-inch drums mean tremendous stopping power for emergencies — and easier, smoother stops at any time.

Chevrolet Is the Lowest-Priced Fine Car Line

Certainly, price is one of the most important factors of all. We're glad to be able to tell you that Chevrolet is the lowest-priced line in its field. In fact, it is Canada's lowest-priced full-size car.

Now, you might well ask, "How can Chevrolet offer me more and still cost less?" There is a simple, logical answer to that.

Remember that Chevrolet builds more cars than any other manufacturer. Chevrolet, along with General Motors, has greater facilities for research, for engineering and production. So, isn't it reasonable that these greater facilities bring manufacturing advantages and economies which Chevrolet can pass on to you in terms of higher quality at lower price?

An Endorsement Given No Other Car

Again this year, more people are buying Chevrolets than any other car. Obviously that wouldn't be true unless people liked Chevrolet better. Unless Chevrolet offered more things people want — more value.

So, when you're ready to choose your new car, wouldn't you agree that Chevrolet merits your careful consideration? Believe it or not, there are a number of things we want you to know about the new Chevrolet that we haven't had space for here!

We welcome your visit at any time, so that you can look the car over yourself and try it out on the road.

★ ★ ★

*Combination of 115-h.p. "Blue-Flame" engine and Powerglide automatic transmission optional on "Two-Ten" and Bel Air models at extra cost.

MORE PEOPLE BUY **CHEVROLETS** THAN ANY OTHER CAR

A Look at

The Wheat Situation

by H. S. FRY

THE world wheat situation has been very much in the public eye since the new crop year began. There is a very large supply of wheat in the world, and not only Canadian wheat producers, but the general public, have been regaled with many wheat statistics and opinions. Domestic and foreign supply, the storage situation, expectations as to the course of wheat prices and the probable effect of Britain's abstention from the new three-year International Wheat Agreement, have all received attention. There has been some questioning, also, of Canada's wheat marketing methods, as well as criticism both at home and abroad of the policies which have been adopted from time to time by the Canadian Wheat Board.

At least two-thirds of the world's population are always interested in the supply of wheat. This is because wheat and rice are the two most universally used food crops, and also because much more wheat than rice moves every year in international trading. There are more countries producing some wheat themselves, than are producing rice. In fact, importing countries produce far more wheat than do the big exporting countries—the United States, Canada, Australia and Argentina. The amount of wheat they import each year depends on the amount of wheat they have produced themselves. For this reason, therefore, world exports in individual years have gone below 400 million bushels (during World War II), and have exceeded 900 million bushels in 1928-29, and again during the last two years.

THE important factors in the present supply situation may be summarized as follows:

1. The nine U.S. wheat crops since the war ended have averaged 1,175 million bushels. The U.S. never had a billion-bushel crop of wheat until 1944, and until then, only five crops had reached the 900 million mark since 1921. There have been only four crops over 1,200 million bushels and two of these have occurred in the last two years.

For the crop year just ended the United States had a carryover of 559 million bushels. This, added to an estimated 1953 crop of 1,169 million bushels, gives a total supply in the U.S. of 1,728 million bushels, of which only 700 million bushels is needed for domestic consumption. Thus, the U.S. has in prospect about 1,030 million bushels of wheat for export and carryover, of which Washington estimates that 800 million bushels will be carried over into the 1954-55 crop year.

The reasons for this extraordinary increase in U.S. wheat production are many, and it is impossible to assign values accurately to the various factors involved. The estimate of the U.S. Department of Agriculture for all U.S. postwar farm production increases over prewar production, is that about 40

Another large North American crop has plugged wheat pipelines at a time when importing countries have good temporary stocks on hand

per cent of the increase is to be credited to favorable weather, another 40 per cent to mechanization, and the remainder to various production factors, such as much greater use of fertilizers, the use of good seed and improved varieties, better weed control, and so on. It is undeniable, however, that underlying all such increases lay another very powerful factor. This is the incentive given to producers by the U.S. farm price support program, which has guaranteed wheat producers a minimum of 90 per cent of parity. During the last four years this has meant a basic wheat price in the United States that has been from 35 to 40 per cent above the maximum prices under the International Wheat Agreement. With assurance of such returns, wheat producers were not only encouraged to increase the acreage seeded, but to secure as much yield as was practical from each acre. In each of the last three years, wheat seedings have exceeded 78 million acres.

2. In Canada we have had seven 500-million-bushel wheat crops, six of them since 1938, and three of them in the last three years. During these



Government interior elevator at Moose Jaw, Sask.

three years we have built up a carryover of 342 million bushels, and topped it off with a 1953 crop which is the second largest we have ever grown. This 594-million-bushel crop—if it materializes—will let us eat, feed and seed as much as we normally do, and still have perhaps 775 million bushels for export and carryover, after deducting 160 million bushels for domestic consumption. We may have close to 500 million bushels to carryover into 1954-55. As in the United States, much of this accumulation is chargeable to weather, mechanization, fertilizers, disease and weed control and good varieties. It is altogether likely, too, that the relative importance of these factors has been much the same as in the United States.

There is one difference, however. That is the spur to increased acreage provided by the U.S. price

support program. Since 1946, Canadian wheat producers have had, instead, compulsory delivery to the Canadian Board and the services of the Board in securing for them the best possible general average prices, which have been pooled by grade each year. Instead of being guaranteed a price well above the maximum IWA price, they have received initial, interim and final payments, out of funds accumulated from wheat sales. Wheat for the domestic market, as well as for IWA countries, has been sold at the IWA price, leaving only a small portion of the crop to be sold on the open market at Class II prices. Also, Canadian producers have themselves borne the full cost of Wheat Board operations.

3. If we consider the over-all supply position in North America and add together the carryovers and new crops of Canada and the United States, we get a total supply of 2,664 million bushels. Deducting from this 860 million bushels for consumption in both countries, leaves 1,664 million bushels for export or carryover. This amount of wheat alone is enough to supply a world wheat trade of 800 million bushels for two years and leave some carryover.

4. The situation in the other three exporting countries, including France, Australia and Argentina, is variable, but trends toward higher carryovers and increased production. French crops have averaged 285 million bushels since 1947. For this year the French crop is estimated at 302 million bushels. Domestic requirement is about 245 million bushels.

The crop years in Australia and Argentina begin December 1, and the harvesting season is December and January. Last year Australia had a wheat crop of 211 million bushels of which 97 million bushels were available for export and carryover on July 1. The Argentine crop in 1952-53 amounted to 286 million bushels, of which about 163 million bushels were available for export and carryover July 1. The prospects this year are for a 220-million-bushel crop, if average yields are secured.

5. Favorable harvests are expected in most of Europe, with the exception of Spain. Italy is promised an all-time record crop. Turkey will better her record crop of 1952. Britain's crop has been estimated at 89 million bushels. Except in Pakistan, Asian and African wheat crops will be as good as, or better than, 1952. Total world wheat production will probably not reach the record level of 1952, but most importing countries are said to have substantial stocks of wheat on hand. It is known also that Sweden, Denmark and Turkey have been able to offer substantial quantities of soft wheat for export, and that similar quantities of hard wheat have been offered for export by Russia, Rumania and Bulgaria.

(Please turn to page 80)

Nature Girl

by SHIRLEY R. REEVE

Jenny had come from the East and had a dream of living in a cabin in the woods. She set out and got herself a job in the city but did not seem to seek security. Then bearded John Thoreau, writer and longshoreman, walked into our lives

THIS is a story that perhaps I shouldn't tell. If I were a man I wouldn't tell it; for men are inclined not to look back, but rather look at things as they are, without taking into account the causes—and the effects. And too, men have no use for compromise. Perhaps that is why men seem to be happier than women. Still, in spite of everything, I wouldn't say that Jenny isn't happy.

Sometimes I'd think that I lost track of her, and a couple of months would go by before I'd see her. And then again, sometimes she'd call me and we'd talk. That was the way it was one time in particular.

The phone rang and when I answered it, I found it was Jenny's voice on the line. It had a vibrant quality that hadn't been there for—oh, ever so long.

She said she was going to be married.

"No! Really?" Jenny had been going to be married for sometime now, and I wondered if this time it would really come off.

"Is the date all set?"

"Tomorrow," she said. She asked if Pete and I would stand up with them, and mentioned the office of the County Court Judge downtown in Vancouver.

I wondered why she asked Pete and me. At first I thought it might be because we'd been kind of in on things from the first . . .



Jenny and John plastered whole potatoes with mud and pushed them into the coals.

It all started several years ago before Pete and I were married, when I lived at the Inlet View Apartments. I was working at the Northwest Can Co. and trying to save money for our dream home, so I decided to sublet half of my apartment. Since the apartment house was in a rundown neighborhood, I knew that anyone who answered the ad would either be rundown too or have an adventure-some spirit.

THE girl to whom I rented it wasn't rundown in the least. It was Jenny.

She was a pretty little thing from Ontario. She'd come to Vancouver because she'd heard that the Pacific Northwest was virgin country covered with wild timber. She hadn't been the least bit daunted to find that Vancouver was quite a modern and civilized place. She'd set out and got herself a job lined up with a lumber outfit on the Island.

There was a catch to it, though: it was a stenographic job and she didn't know typing or shorthand. She was back in Vancouver going to business

college when she joined me at the Inlet View. As I say, the apartment was near the waterfront. Mrs. Nuney, the landlady, kept it fairly quiet and respectable. I liked it there, except that the cold water faucet in our apartment dripped and there was a man upstairs in the third floor back who wore a black beard and typed all night. I didn't object to the beard, but the clackety-clack of the typewriter was driving me batty.

I remember one morning when I woke up with a headache. It must have been Sunday for Jenny was home. I was in a peevish mood: I knew that I had to clean house today. The man from the Northwest Pacific Insurance Co. was coming tomorrow, and along with the headache I had to put up with the clackety-clack of the typewriter upstairs.

"Does this go on often?" Jenny asked. She didn't know because she was gone all day and evenings too, for she worked part-time at a restaurant down town.

"Constantly," I said.

"That's one of the things you have to put up with in city life," said Jenny. She waved her hand out the window. If we leaned out that window far enough we could actually get a view of Burrard Inlet, and we could see the mountains beyond.

"Just wait until I get my log cabin in the wilderness," she went on. "I'll ask you and Pete to visit me—"

"Don't get started on that," I said snappishly.

"O.K.," she said agreeably. She was an agreeable girl to live with. She looked pretty, too, in her jeans and daffodil-colored sweater, leaning out the window into the spring sunshine. Her curls were blowing just a little in the breeze. She looked so much like the little sister I used to have that I wanted to cry.

(Please turn to page 58)

Illustrated by Neil Hoogstraten.



Could We Have Grown Higher Protein Wheat This Year



CANADIAN wheat is top quality on the export market. Our grading system is generally considered to be the best; and we have paid a great deal of attention to the varieties grown. Today, only high quality varieties can get into the top statutory grades. More than any other one thing, however, the protein content of Canadian hard red spring wheat determines its position on the world's market.

It is quite true, on the average, that western Canada produces high protein wheat, but we have known for a long time that protein content varies from year to year, from district to district, from field to field, and even within fields. We have also known, for a long time, that the factors most responsible for the variations are soil fertility and rainfall during the growing season. The combination of these two factors, together with the variety of wheat, determines the protein content of any given sample.

It was suggested, in a note on page 34 of the August issue of *The Country Guide*, that, in Missouri, soil fertility is the really important factor in determining protein content. It was further suggested that by suitable application of nitrogen fertilizer it should be possible to raise protein content—the experimental figures given were from 8.9 to 17.0 per cent.

There is no argument with the statement that "for much strong vegetative growth and high yields, nitrogen must be available in quantity early in the growing season. For a high concentration of protein, additional nitrogen must be available in generous quantities, shortly before the grain heads out." There is considerable doubt, however, that the theoretical high yield and high protein content can be realized in practice by the use of nitrogen fertilizers—particularly in western Canada.

In 1927, the Grain Research Laboratory of the Board of Grain Commissioners began annual surveys of the protein content of western Canadian wheat. The average annual protein content has varied from a low of 11.4 per cent in 1927 to a high of 15.1 per cent in 1941. The two years, 1941 and 1942, provide a most interesting comparison. Farmers will remember that 1941, in general, produced a poor yield, but that 1942 produced a very heavy yield. The average protein content in 1941, as already stated, was 15.1 per cent, but the next year the average was only 12.8 per cent. No one can seriously suggest that fertility conditions in the two years—taking the whole of the three prairie provinces into consideration—were very different. The difference in protein content was certainly caused by the generally dry conditions in 1941 and the generally wet ones in 1942.

In 1935-36, at the University of Alberta, the Department of Field Crops (now Plant Science) became

This article suggests that despite anything that farmers can do, we will have high-protein crops in some years and low-protein crops in others

by A. G. McALLA



Fertilized clover plot on left at Breton six years after tests began, yielded 4,600 lbs. hay per acre: unfertilized plot on right, 1,600 lbs.

seriously interested in the possibility of raising the low protein content in wheat grown in some parts of the province. A detailed protein study made by the Grain Research Laboratory showed very clearly that in some areas of Alberta and northern Saskatchewan, low protein wheat was produced every—or nearly every—year, regardless of rainfall. These are areas of low soil fertility, where available nitrogen during the growing season is nearly always in short supply. Farmers had increased yields by using fertilizers, but there was no indication that the quality had been improved.



Wooded soil at Breton, first crop after clovers and fertilized with ammonium phosphate, 31.7 bus. wheat (left); unfertilized (right) 17.4 bus. per acre.

In 1929, the Department of Soils had laid out the first of the now famous Breton plots. Run-down, infertile, grey soil in western Alberta had, almost immediately, been made to produce increased yields of improved quality wheat. A combination of legumes and fertilizer gave excellent results, but either of these alone was relatively ineffective. The conditions under which the crops were grown were, at first, very different from those used by farmers in the area, but today an ever-increasing number of farmers are following the lead set by these studies.

AVERAGE results for the first eight years showed that the yield of wheat had been raised from 11.2 bushels per acre, on unfertilized land that had not grown legumes, to 31.8 and 33.2 bushels per acre for the two best fertilizer treatments on legume breaking. After 17 years, the average yield of the best plots is about 35 bushels per acre. Where legumes have been grown, but no fertilizer used, the comparable average is 12.6 bushels per acre. It should be noted that not only nitrogen, but also sulphur, is in short supply in these soils, and that the satisfactory fertilizers all contain both of these elements.

The protein content of the samples varied from year to year. In some years no tests could be made, because the crop was frozen. Where no legumes had been grown, the 11-year average protein content was 10.1 per cent and fertilizers caused no appreciable variation. By contrast, the average for fertilized wheat after clover was 12.7 per cent. Where no fertilizer was used, the comparable figure was 13.0 per cent. Fertilizer, then, had little effect on protein, but legumes raised it by an average of 2.6 per cent. It should be noted that 10.1 per cent protein wheat makes very poor bread. Wheat containing 12.7 per cent protein makes bread of reasonably good quality, although this protein figure is below the western Canadian long-term average.

We wanted to study the effect of late applications of fertilizer under ordinary farm conditions. We, therefore, selected an area in a farmer's field at Fallis, 50 miles west of Edmonton, where no experimental work had been carried on previously. The soil was an infertile grey loam that had been cropped for about ten years. One series of plots was laid down on land that had grown wheat the preceding year and had never grown legumes; and another on land that had grown a legume-grass mixture for the preceding three years. Two varieties of wheat and five fertilizer treatments were used and each was replicated five times in each of four years—1936 to 1939. There were, therefore, ten separate measurements of each test each year. A high nitrogen fertilizer, either ammonium sulphate or 16-20 ammonium phosphate, was used. Individual samples were harvested, weighed, and used for protein tests.

(Please turn to page 56)

Drought Test for U.S. Dust Bowl

A FEELING of complete hopelessness seized the High Plains farmer in the United States when, in the early 1930's his topsoil began to blow away in the protracted drought. Not until this blowing increased to such terrifying proportions as to endanger human and animal life with dust pneumonia, was any sort of a plan brought forward to conquer what, by then, had become known as The Dust Bowl. By this time an area as large as the British Isles—over 227,000 square miles—was blowing almost continuously and in such quantities that the dust was carried to both the Atlantic and the Pacific coasts. Lying west of the one hundredth meridian, the area comprised about half of the states of Kansas, Colorado, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas.

An Oklahoma man, H. H. Finnell, lead the van of the "black-blizzard" battle. As a child he had wondered why the grown folks at church asked the Lord for food and rain, went out and worked hard for food, saved every morsel of it, but didn't do, or even try to do, the first thing about saving rain; and the rain that fell in his part of Oklahoma, then as now, was mighty little. The boy grew up, went into agricultural experiment work in the Oklahoma Panhandle. He was on this job when the dust storms began. He and a fellow worker, Bert W. McGinnis, believed they at least knew how to co-operate with Providence, or anyway get the soil out of the air and hold it down where it belonged.

Their theory was simplicity itself. Farmers must know how to save every drop of rain that falls, and know how to use it most effectively. Any rain allowed to evaporate shortly after it fell, was wasted rain. It couldn't grow crops. But if every possible drop were made to sink into the soil, away from the thieving rays of Old Sol, or from the drying sweep of the almost constant southerlies of the region—you had some chance to grow crops—weeds—grass—anything to hold the earth down with their roots.

TO make rain sink in, Finnell developed what he called *contour tillage*. As its name indicates, this means plowing furrows that follow the contour of the land. It is a round-and-round-the-elevations plowing, in place of the usual up-and-down system. The curved furrow, following a contour, was a water-catcher and water-retainer, permitting no run-off at all. A new sort of plow was used too. This plow made a flat-bottomed, water-holding furrow, much deeper than the ordinary furrow. These furrows, plowed at intervals of a few feet, acted as an irrigation system for the intervening land. If this intervening land was made absolutely level, by exact surveying standards, little water would run off it in the sudden, violent rainstorms, characteristic of the region. If, on steep land, little spillways at alternating ends of contour furrows were made, they would keep excess water flowing in descent through a maze of contour furrows, so slowly that most of it would sink in and little be wasted. Mr. Finnell said enough rain fell to grow crops, even during drought times, but it had been allowed to run off and its haste in going had helped make the land blowy, since the rapid water went fast enough to scour loose the topsoil and carry it away.

Much of the Dust Bowl however, was almost dead-level land that made the use of the contour plan impossible. On this area the shallowest to the deepest depressions were dammed to catch and hold rain. Much cultivated land was returned to native grasses. It was plainly evident that turning

It is possible, even in drought years, to keep the dust out of the air

by KUNIGUNDE DUNCAN



Buffalo grass spreads rapidly by runners, and seeds also.

under the native sod for wheat farming, to supply bread for a world at war, had been no small item in the making of the Dust Bowl. In addition to sod turning—and over a much wider area than was then blowing—there had been thoughtless draining of marshes, ponds and lakes, to provide more farm land. This, too, had helped make the Dust Bowl.

Another important practice that helped win against dust was strip farming. In this procedure, narrow strips of loose-rooted plants like beans and cotton alternated with taller, tenacious-rooted crops like kaffir. This was done upon the theory that wind cannot lift soil into the air unless it has a long sweep of near-barren land upon which to operate, or upon unplanted, but cultivated fields. The grip-rooted plants hold down their strip of earth and are repeated alternately with the others, thus occurring so often that the wind doesn't get a chance to whisk earth into the air, even upon the lower strips of loose-rooted plants. The taller crops often protect

drawn—that punched, or dug, or gouged, little and big holes, some as large as a bathtub, all over the blowing, ungrassed land, trapping and holding all moisture that fell. They learned to plow deep enough to turn up the clodded sub-soil that could not blow.

FROM the air the one-time Dust Bowl began to look like a different land. It was pocked thickly with stock-water, fish-and-game and storage ponds and lakes, with larger reservoirs for towns and cities. Now these water storage splotches are almost as thick as the freckles on the farm boys who are sailing boat races, where, 20 years ago, dust boiled up and into the air, turning the sun grey, and the moon a weird purple, and often so completely obscuring the sun that car lights were needed at mid-day on the highways.

When once the chief ideas, saving rain and using it to best advantage, were accepted by farmers, they needed little more help in the battle. Each man went on from there, applying the principles to his own acres, often in a new, clever and original fashion. No ditch now led water off the fields, but most ditches led run-off water back onto them, or to some storage pond. No farmer burned off stubble, old haystacks, or the prairie. Where native grass was undisturbed, no dust had blown. As all the rain that did fall began to be saved and well husbanded, tiny green areas appeared like oases in the great ocean of dust—*islands of hope*, they were. But even more miraculous and hopeful and amazing was the fact that where crops were growing, they were better under drought conditions than they had been under normal rainfall.

Along with all these innovations, and because of the powerful tractor, experimental plots were given over to planting imported plants that scientists had been gathering from other semi-arid portions of the globe. In the long run, however, the native grasses, buffalo, gramma and blue-stem—together with various sorts of kaffirs, proved most efficient in quickly covering bared ground, or holding cultivated soils stable. All stubble, old hay and any roughage whatsoever, even weeds, were permitted to remain to protect the soil where they stood, or carted to bare ground and plowed into it. This practice originated and was preached in the first place as a soil stabilizing measure, but farmers soon found out that it had another great value. It attracted and stored moisture and made fine breeding places for soil bacteria. Soil so treated became moist and more productive.

As the testing areas—those tiny specks of green—began to expand in size and to multiply, the dusters tapered off, and finally disappeared. The battle of the Dust Bowl, after nearly ten years of hard, continuous fighting was won by the heroic farmer, a courageous, gallant figure in the battle for food. City-owned lands, rented to tenant farmers, are for the most part, still to be brought into line.

THE years 1952 and 1953 have proved a real test for soil conservation practices. Many argued that increasing precipitation, less wind and lower summer temperatures had been the final influence in bringing farming in the Dust Bowl back to normal. Recent severe and spotty droughts in various sections of the old Dust Bowl have proved thoroughly, however, that soil did not blow where farmers had been tying it down by working wheat land only after the season of high winds is over (delayed fallow); by (Please turn to page 52)



Cattle at a stock watering pond in the Kansas Flint Hills. This land is strip-cropped on the contour to reduce run-off.

the shorter to such an extent they shield it completely from the wind.

Schools were set up all over the Dust Bowl, at which ingathering farmers learned these and other new practices. In communities farmers banded together, and with federal financing, were able to feed their families while they laid out the communities and divided labor, in their plans to lick the dust. They learned to use the new implements—all tractor

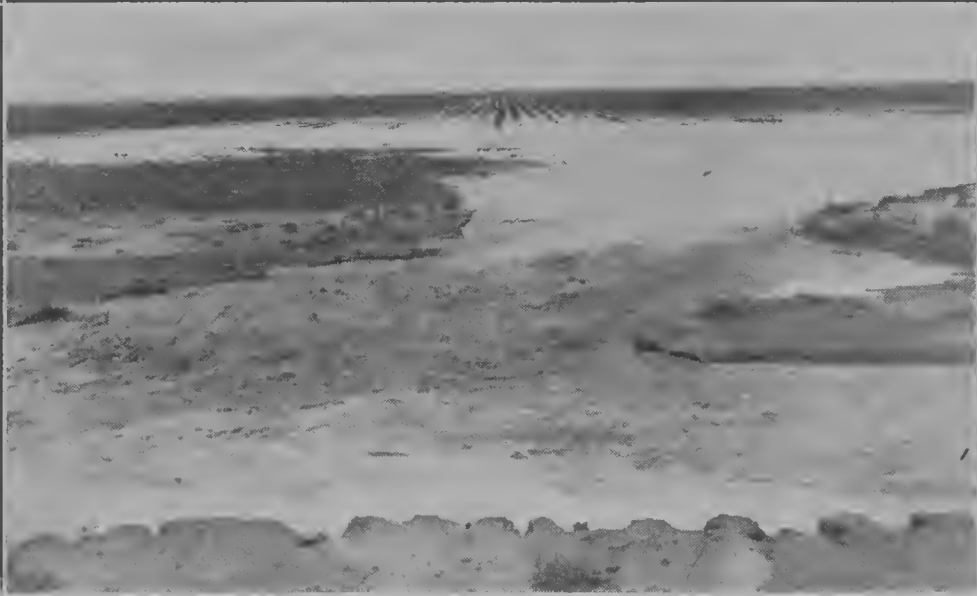


A foot of soil has blown off this Texas field leaving only shifting sand and this sculptured pedestal to mark the loss.



"Ashy" or powdery soil on a tenant farm where the tenants opposed modern conservation methods.

[U.S.D.A. Photos]



A current of rushing water two feet deep resulted from up-and-down tillage of land sloping two and one-half inches in 100 feet.



Lister ridges on the contour in this Oklahoma field strip-cropped with oats kept the water where it fell in a heavy downpour.



Volunteer wheat on a contour terraced field is stubble-mulched by 36-inch sweeps cutting three inches under the surface.



Sorghum stubble on this Texas field has controlled wind erosion without emergency tillage.



Excellent sorghum crop second season after terracing and contouring, which held the season's 11.9-inch rainfall.



462-acre lovegrass pasture in Texas, once moderately eroded sandy land, carried up to 300 head until grazed off in winter.

The Pleasures of Pandemonium

They involve the mad scramble of vagrant feet and flying arms known as square dancing

by JACK WOLSEY



THIS is not a subject on which I talk—ordinarily. It was forced upon me by various unavoidable, unpleasant circumstances, and I must speak in defence of myself and others who agree. Surely someone must have the same opinion of square dancing that I have; for the things that I put down here actually happened, and are not just the product of glandular disorder or an over-active imagination.

They say you never know exactly what you want in a wife, until after you've got one; then it's a bit too late to do anything about it. That's me! I don't know exactly what to do about it. Now, bear in mind, I've no usual "run of the mill" objections to my wife's behavior. Had she turned out to be something uncomplicated, such as a dope-addict, I'd have "footed the bill" gladly for the "cure." Had the lady of my choice developed the odd idiosyncrasy of her sex, or conjured up a few of nature's perplexing phobias, I would simply have said, "She's my wife and I'll stick to her." But trust my love to be even more complex.

My wife and I have always been known, even to our closer friends, as a very compatible couple. Overnight, things have changed and, as a result, we are no longer known as compatibles, but as combatibles.

Now please keep this thought in mind, I have no desire to deprive the lady I love of any of the joys that are rightfully hers; but why in all tarnation should she seek to impose upon me, a home-loving individual, an ordeal in which I am not only

in danger of losing my sanity, but my very equilibrium as well? The fact is, I'm out of joint in about a dozen different places, due to being out of place in about a dozen different joints, indulging my wife's whims. To make my predicament clear I will explain. I am the pathetic victim of the square dancing craze.

I REMEMBER my initiation very well. My wife used the same brand of persuasion that she applied so well, when she thoroughly convinced me that it was my idea, and mine only, that we get married. I saw the handwriting on the wall, but by that time it was too late, for that gradual process of cajolery and subtle flattery had raised Cain with my willpower and I weakly succumbed to her wiles. I'm not too clear on the subject; just when did I consent to go, or did I? Victim of a weak moment, and prey to a few thousand well-chosen words, I heard my wife say as we left the house, "Are you sure everything is shut up, dear?" I just couldn't resist the temptation, and I heard my voice reply: "That depends on you, dear, everything else is."

Five minutes later I found myself in a hall with a bunch of brawling maniacs, who made more noise than a hog-caller's rehearsal, and threw more verbal brick-bats than confetti on New Year's eve. My wife having expended her energies in persuasion, left me to the tender mercies of that heartless, milling mob. There I sat, trying to look as inconspicuous as possible, scarcely daring to breathe, and feeling about as limp as an autumn leaf in a rain storm. Timidly I surveyed a scene that smacked of opening night for pandemonium. To this day I've never discovered whether my considerate spouse sicked her on me, but I felt a premonition of disaster; and suddenly I was confronted by a regular amazon of a woman, who, with a predatory gleam in her eye, quickly dis-

pensed with all social amenities, and hoisted me from my seat as easily as she would have lifted Monday's basket of ironing. From then on things were pretty hazy. Of this, however, I am all too certain: I saw more violent action—never self-propelled—in the next ten minutes, than I had ever undergone before, though in my varied career I had taken some well-aimed body checks, played lacrosse, basketball, and even boxed and wrestled a bit.

OPERATION MANGLE began with a lot of irrelevant by-play that left me cold and clueless, but then, like some harbinger of woe, a leather-lunged individual at a microphone added to my confusion by shouting at me. It must have confused the ladies on each side of me, too, for they couldn't seem to make up their minds just which one should have possession of my body first. The one on the left gave a wicked tug, and just as I'd get my coat up over that shoulder, the other would pull frantically from the other side, until I felt like a prize bone at a dog show. Finally, the Behemoth who had first appropriated me won, and I became the involuntary impersonator of a mad whirling dervish. After an eternity, she released her hold and I took off like a scalded cat, only to be quickly intercepted by another ample-bosomed matron who spun me violently in the opposite direction, until I wobbled around like a fugitive from a lost week-end. All this time, to add to my dilemma, the musicians vied frantically with each other in an effort to drown out his neighbor, but old Stone Tonsils at the "mike" just cranked up the volume and put them all to shame. The original Simon Legree of square dancing, he cracked his verbal whip, with a voice that rubbed my nerves until they were frayed like the cuffs of a pre-war tweed, while his cohorts on the dance floor pushed, pulled and tripped me into submission. His voice was a dismal combination of Johnnie Ray's and Digger O'Dell's and made the Hound of the Baskervilles sound like Giselle McKenzie. I'm sure that Frankenstein must have written the script. Why, I couldn't have followed his directions had he supplied me with a compass and a road map.

ABOUT halfway through the first heat, Lady Luck smiled on me. I broke free and headed for the door in undignified flight, but my opponent of the buxom build was in there like a burglar, and like a female interceptor plane, swooped down on me and demanded to know whither and why the haste? I only remember muttering something about going back, that I'd forgotten to touch second, before I was again engulfed in that mad scramble of vagrant feet and flying arms.

Fat perspiring men, straining at their galluses, belligerent women, confirmed oscillationists, (Please turn to page 54)

After thirty seconds of action I was ready for capitulation, and one minute later, unconditional surrender.



Illustrated by JAMES SIMPKINS

Ten Thousand HUNGRY TURKEYS

Raising 8,000 birds for holiday eating, and another 2,000 for breeding pens, is a summer's work on this Alberta farm

by DON BARON

FOUR miles west of Acme, Alberta, a summer traveller will pass by a field seething with awkward and curious turkeys. If he stops his car and waits, a sea of turkeys will surge toward him, gobbling and chattering with excitement. Five thousand pairs of turkey eyes will peer through the woven wire fence into his car, while from a neighboring field, another 5,000 birds will go through the same curious performance of inspecting and welcoming the onlooker.

It is the poultry farm of Ben Brown, where 8,000 birds a year are raised for the Thanksgiving and Christmas markets, and another 2,000 go into the breeding flock. Over 800,000 pounds of feed go into the feed troughs during the rearing season, to be turned into 160,000 pounds of gleaming turkey meat. It is enough to give everyone in the city of Edmonton a big feed of the country's favorite holiday meat.

Yet Mr. and Mrs. Brown literally had to fight their way through the heart-breaking thirties before they achieved success during the past ten years. They bought their section of land in 1928, when Ben graduated in agriculture, from university in the U.S. They worked for ten years trying to pay for it, without gaining an inch. Stocked with a herd of sows that ultimately numbered over a hundred, the farm grew much of the grain to feed out the litters. Pig pens and barns and sheds were built to improve the farmstead. But the drag of those stagnant years depreciated the farm faster than they could pay off the mortgage.

Luxuries were unknown, and Ben recalls how, in that period, a trace chain made a good toy train for his two sons to play with. It taught them to use their imagination, he says, and they are better off for it now. He remembers when he could see how \$50 spent, could earn him \$100—but he didn't have the \$50. He saved until finally, with cash in his pocket, he ordered his first ton of tankage to give the pigs a balanced ration. The money was returned tenfold in better health and faster gains.

But that is water under the bridge now. The swine herd was sold, because of a bout with the persistent and still mysterious disease, rhinitis, and pigs could not gain an entry to the farm again. Though he intended to simply clean up and start over, the small flock of turkeys his wife was raising caught his interest. He expanded the flock and though he still calls the big birds "the dumbest things on any farm," he has 10,000 to look after now.

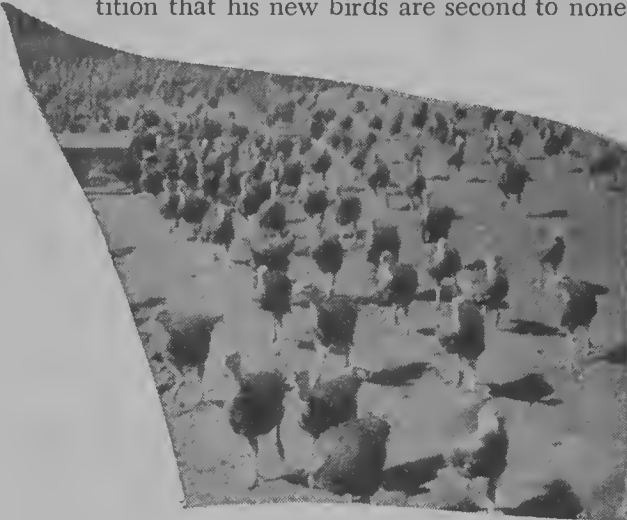
WHEN asked why he raises nothing but turkeys, he answered: "Learning enough to do a good job with them takes all my time." Apparently, the knowledge he is acquiring is sound, for on the sunny July day he was visited by a Country Guide

representative, a record was being established. Five consecutive days had been completed without a single loss among the birds.

With so many turkeys running the range, it is no wonder that enthusiasm runs high for them; but when the conversation turns to turkey carcasses, the twinkle in his eyes turns to a gleam. He is thinking of the thick and fleshy meat-type birds he raises now. Up to five years ago, the old standard Bronze suited him well. It was then that Calgary hatcheryman Vern Hallman told him of a thicker, meatier type of Broad Breasted Bronze developed in the United States.

The breeding flock was soon headed by toms of this new strain. After two years, it became evident that half-measures were not enough. The meatiness of the new toms was evidently not dominant over the size and ranginess of his hens. He shipped his entire flock, bought new birds in the United States and, in 1952, had the champion dressed and eviscerated (drawn) tom at the Royal Winter Fair.

The victory proved in Canada-wide competition that his new birds are second to none.



Some of these younger turkeys will go to the Christmas market, others into the breeding pens.

"Now," he points out, with a provincial pride that can well be pardoned, "Vern Hallman's selling work on these broad-breasted birds has been a big factor in changing about 70 per cent of southern Alberta's turkeys to this new, superior type."

A MAJOR part of the Brown turkey business consists of the breeding flock—about 1,700 hens and 250 toms. These supply eggs to the Hallman hatchery, and from these eggs are hatched the 5,000 poults which come back to the Brown farm about March 1, when three days old. They go into the brooder houses and onto a dry litter of bran which will do them no harm, if they decide to eat some. Four days later, when the poults have learned where to find the feed hoppers, the bran is replaced with peat moss. In another two weeks, the peat moss is removed and the Ten-Test flooring with it. The birds are let down onto the wooden slats which form the floor of the brooding pens. When only a month old the poults are roosting and many are ready to leave the brooding house.

Individual pens here house 350 poults.



Ben Brown examines one of his 19-week-old birds.

Though they have been heated electrically, another season will see propane brooders keeping the poults warm.

About half of the 5,000 poults are sent to the "hardening-off" pens at a month old; and in this long wooden shed—on the range—furnace heat is all there is to take the chill from cool nights. By the time the poults are two months old, the entire 5,000 are out to the hardening-off pens, leaving the brooders clear for the other 5,000, soon to arrive.

In another two weeks, all of the first group are out to range, with shelters their only accommodation.

Satisfying the huge appetites of ten thousand birds is a costly job. The poults begin with a commercial starter of 26 to 28 per cent protein. When six weeks old, they are switched to a growing ration, mixed on the farm, and consisting of grain and commercial concentrate, with mineral, cod liver oil, and cereal grass added. At three months they are on whole grains and range pellets and—a factor he considers important even though the birds range outside—plenty of insoluble granite grit and oyster shell. In fact, 5,000 birds were devouring 50 pounds of grit and 75 pounds of oyster shell daily in July.

Although most of Mr. Brown's 640 acres are seeded to grain, this meets only a small part of his feed requirements. No expense is spared in producing the best possible ration. A firm believer in the value of green feed, he mixes cereal grass with the turkey feed; and a handful picked from the hoppers shows the distinct green color, which means more vitamins and a promise of better health.

A pressure system puts water wherever the turkeys need it, either on the range, or into the brooder houses, but feeding is not as simple. With narrow brooder pens, mechanical feeders would not leave enough hopper space for the poults. He is forced, then, to make do with hand-filled hoppers, which mean more work, but also mean healthier birds. Feed is carted to the range and fed in hoppers there.

THE wandering birds tramp over acres of pasture, flattening it like a herd of buffalo. Devoid of the stealthy searching and picking instincts of chickens, they eat a little pasture and a few bugs, and trample field after field while doing it. Starting on a permanent field of alfalfa, they progress, as the season goes along, to cereal grass planted on land that has been free of turkeys for a few years. By late fall, they have used up 40 acres.

Farmers who have raised small flocks of turkeys and been forced to abandon their efforts because of disease, can well imagine the risks with so big a flock. Mr. Brown calls chickens the biggest menace to a turkey flock, and emphasizes "turkeys and chicks don't mix." He won't have a chicken on the place. Quinoxaline in the drinking water has effectively controlled coccidiosis, and the flock has still suffered no epidemic of Newcastle, or black-head. He blames most turkey losses, either on his own or other farms, on poor handling and incomplete rations. (Please turn to page 53)



This group of 5,000 birds, pictured in early July, are for Thanksgiving market.

A Parent's School Daze

"**M**OM, please let me buy a leather binder. All the kids have them. I'll use my own money. No one uses scribblers."

'Tis my ten-year-old son pleading eloquently.

Once again I shout, "No, you can not have a leather binder. Wash your face and hurry to school." The door slams.

"Mom, my nylons have a run in the front. I sure need a new pair. Can I buy a new tube of lipstick, Mom? This color doesn't suit me at all."

This is my fourteen-year-old, standing in the doorway, \$3 binder tucked neatly under her arm, lips scarlet, legs nylon clad.

Once again, I shout, "I've told you a hundred times nylons are too impractical and expensive for school wear. No, you can't buy any new lipstick. That color suits you fine." The door slams.

"Mom, the teacher's going to be mad if I wear these old sneakers to school again today. Will you ask Dad to buy me some new boots?"

Now it's my twelve-year-old-son, \$6 ball glove on one fist standing in the doorway.

"Yes, I'll ask him," I answer weakly, thinking of our sadly strained budget. The door bangs.

Suddenly the house is quiet except for the frustrated screaming of the four-year-old, "I am so big enough to go to school. I am so."

I FEEL spent and weary, as all mothers of active growing young ones must feel weary, and over my second cup of coffee I ask myself for the hundredth time:

"School—what is this business called school?"

I used to know. At times I still think I know, but again I feel the need just to sit and ponder.

For some reason the beginning of a verse learned in a long-past era returns to fill me with nostalgia:

"My mind lets go a thousand things

Like dates of wars and deaths of kings,

And yet recalls the very hour,

'Twas noon by yonder churchyard tower;"

and once again I am a young one fighting for my rights and liberty.

Visible for miles, perched high on a sandy knoll, painted white as the snow, stood the one-room schoolhouse of my dreams.

Its occupants were the numerous progeny of pioneer parents. We ranged in age from six to fourteen years and were thirty to forty in number—grades one to eight inclusive. Our nearest town was 11 miles distant; and this school served not only as a hall of learning but as a community center. Our parents were justifiably proud of it, and had built it themselves, by the sweat of their brows.

Teacher was usually a confident seventeen-year-old miss, proud possessor of a third-class or grade ten equivalent certificate. To our parents she truly represented the books of knowledge, and if she was worth her salt at all, she'd see that we learned "readin', 'ritin,' and 'rithmetic'"—and our A,B,C's in their proper order. What farmer's kids needed more than that?

As for living quarters, she didn't worry overly much. She boarded with all of us—all around the district. I'll never forget the house and face cleaning that went on just prior to teacher's visit at our house. We young 'uns were proud as punch to have

Amid the clamor and noise of childish frustration, weariness came, and nostalgia, too, and last to arrive, common sense

by DOROTHY T. HOFFOS



Visible for miles, perched on a sandy knoll, stood the one-room schoolhouse of my dreams.

her, and scared to death. We were a little ashamed of mother's "ain't," and the spoon in Dad's coffee cup. Mother was so proud of our sudden good manners, and after teacher's sojourn would often remark:

"My, I wish you youngsters would behave nice like when teacher's here."

We wouldn't have dared behave any other way. We knew teacher had a strap at school, as well as our parents' full permission to use it, should the occasion warrant it.

Teacher may have been hired the first year on her certificate and qualifications, but I can honestly say that her second year hinged on her ability to put on a Christmas concert. The school board, parents, children—in fact the whole neighborhood—expected her to shine here.

December the first of every year was always the beginning of this—the biggest epoch in our school lives. Program parts were pondered over, then assigned by teacher. She knew that every last one of us must be a star. Memorizing and practising became the order of the day. Not that normal school proceedings had stopped. Oh no! Far from it. We still had our regular school duties, and the dreaded Christmas exams to write, but a little extra had been added. How we loved it, when teacher would say:

"Clear your desks, children. We are going to practise for the Christmas concert."

Our feelings reached fever pitch as the great night approached. The school was transformed into a thing of awe and wonder. A large board platform would be built across the front, and teacher's desk was relegated to the back of the room. Dark green drapes formed separate dressing rooms for boys and girls—a thrilling arrangement. Blackboards were stencilled in gay Christmas scenes like Santa and his reindeer. Windows colorfully and artistically told the real Christmas story. Pupils, one and all,

vied with the great masters. Ah, 'twas a heart-warming and gala scene. The wall brackets holding the small kerosene lamps were polished bright, waiting their turn to shine.

Our mothers would be busy at home sewing our complicated costumes. Mother Goose and her tribe showed up at all of our Christmas concerts, and so did Joseph and Mary and their loving cast.

The school young ones would be taking advantage of every spare moment, stringing popcorn and cranberries, twisting red and green crepe paper to decorate the eight-foot Christmas tree. Our school board always bought an eight-foot tree, because nothing smaller could have done justice to the occasion.

The older school youngsters would be hanging festive paper bells and sewing colored mesh bags to hold the Christmas treats—candy, oranges, nuts and an apple. The apple never appealed to me. We had apples at home, and this occasion warranted only the unusual.

The school board would be concerned with teacher's present; how best to spend the \$20, or so, that had been collected; and should they perhaps buy the expensive Christmas candy, the kind with the chocolate caramels. If

teacher was pretty and had done well by us, we were sure to rate the caramels.

My brothers and sisters and I would be worrying mother about our give-away Christmas presents. These were always ordered through the catalog, and we always had a horrible feeling that they might not arrive on time. Weeks before, at school, names had been drawn from a hat, and our gift partners chose. Should we happen to have drawn teacher's name, the tension was great.

Our school had no piano, but with teacher's able guidance, we learned to sing—and how we sang the favorite Christmas hymns, in readiness for our concert. A week prior to the big night, a neighbor's piano would be installed on the school stage. What a week followed. The owner of this wonderful instrument suddenly became our guiding minstrel as well as pianist, and our voices swelled in rapturous song.

CAME the big night we all were waiting for—teacher, parents and young ones. Scrubbed and shining, pale shadows of ourselves, happy yet distraught, we were bundled into the waiting sleigh by our suddenly tense parents. The night was always dark and sometimes stormy, but without the aid of head or tail lights, we reached our destination, the old schoolhouse, newly transformed.

The kerosene lamps, with glass chimneys and silver brackets, cast such a glow that I can only feel shame for the fluorescent lighting of today. Our reindeer pranced, Santa Claus chuckled, and I swear Mary and Joseph's donkey brayed. The interior of our school was indeed a thing of beauty; and, I might add, the memory of it is a joy forever.

Best of all, we were on time, and the concert hadn't started without us, as we had feared. The school was full to overflowing with all the people we knew, and a few that we didn't. This was it, the school Christmas concert.

(Please turn to page 55)

B.C. Letter

Agriculture receives attention—milk prices—fruit crop—Sons of Freedom Doukhobors represent a long-standing problem

by CHAS. L. SHAW

BRITISH COLUMBIA'S Social Credit government has a variety of problems on its hands, but the complications besetting agriculture will not be overlooked, according to the principal spokesman of the Bennett administration.

Agriculture Minister W. K. Kiernan recently emphasized the importance of a sound farm economy. He predicted that the day is coming when the province must take stock of all its resources, including agriculture, and make sure that, in its production and marketing policies, these resources are expanded rather than depleted.

"Agriculture in British Columbia, the most diversified of any province, faces two major problems," declared Mr. Kiernan. "In production, returns from our small three per cent arable land must be sustained, but at the same time it must be economical. Planting two blades of grass is fine, unless when it matures there isn't a market for even one. In marketing there must be economic methods, for the producer finds himself in a squeeze, returns on a downward trend, with items that go into production going up. Conservation fits into the overall picture, because it means sound farming."

As the first big step toward improving the marketing of agricultural produce, Mr. Kiernan has announced removal of price controls on milk, above the producer level. He believes that this will be advantageous to the dairy interests, as well as to the consumer, and one result he foresees is a general increase in per capita consumption of milk. Some distributors do not appear to like the change in policy, and have protested, but there is no indication that the government intends to revise its announced plan. The operators of chain stores are all for it.

Between 1947 and 1952 the population of the lower mainland of British Columbia rose from 613,484 to 708,396, an increase of nearly 100,000. During the same period, prices of milk rose from 14 cents a quart to 22 cents, an increase of more than 50 per cent. Fluid milk consumption decreased by 2,618,026 quarts, or 3.8 per cent. These figures alone give a graphic indication of what has been happening in the dairy industry, and the government believes that decontrol will help it.

ALL of the figures aren't in yet, of course, but the signs are that fruit production in the west coast province will show a healthy gain this year, with the apple crop some 20 per cent higher than in 1952. The 1953 apricot crop is likely to be the heaviest yet, a two per cent increase over last season's 250,000 bushels. Sagging production in the competitive areas of Washington state should be of some assistance to the Okanagan valley growers, although there doesn't appear to be much hope for trade from the United Kingdom.

What Britain buys will, as usual, be one of the important factors determining British Columbia's export economy

during the coming year. So far, while reports from overseas regarding Britain's economic recovery make cheering reading, there has been no apparent disposition on the part of British buyers to depart from their extremely cautious policy. Before long, the lumber exporters here hope to know what they may be able to expect from the British market in 1954. The same applies to the canned salmon business. During the war years, the United Kingdom just couldn't get enough canned salmon and lumber from this province, but since then, demand has generally tapered off, not because these products had lost their appeal, but because Britain lacked the hard currency to pay for them.

THE legislature is now in session, and it is a somewhat historic event, since this is the first time that the Socreds have been able to depend on a clear-cut majority. Unlike the last session, when Premier W. A. C. Bennett and his followers were at the mercy of a few Liberal members, with the C.C.F. in official opposition, the Socreds can pass any laws they wish, without fear of defeat in the house.

The government plans to put through new liquor legislation to provide for a liberalization of sale, by the establishment of cocktail bars. It also plans to abolish the cumbersome electoral machinery that provides for the transferable vote—the system that has prevailed, not too satisfactorily, during the past two elections. It also proposes new taxation on natural resources, including a ten per cent tax on the profits of the larger mining and logging companies, and a one per cent tax on standing timber—issues that are likely to provoke a good deal of contention. It also expects to adopt new legislation covering the Doukhobors.

If anyone has a workable plan to solve the perpetual problem of the Doukhobors, the government would be glad to consider it, although in view of all the failures in the past any suggestion along this line would probably be treated with a somewhat skeptical attitude. For the past 20 years or more, succeeding governments have tried to work out a policy that would make the Sons of Freedom sect law-abiding, without imposing anything resembling the police state. The result has been nothing but frustration and exasperation.

A couple of years ago a committee was appointed to make an exhaustive survey of the Sons of Freedom situation. The so-called Freedomites are not to be confused with the orthodox Doukhobors who are good settlers and mind their own business. The Freedomites are those who burn buildings, dynamite railroad tracks and stage nude parades. Efforts to transplant the colony have been futile.

The committee filed a lengthy report with recommendations, but they were ignored. The government decided to adopt a firm policy, when the Freedomites refused to send their children to school and persisted in their unlawful demonstrations, and some 148 were arrested.

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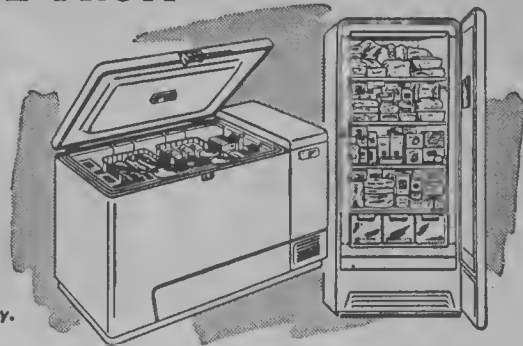
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NEWS OF AGRICULTURE



The cow isn't remarkable, but her four bull calves are at least unusual. Their owner looks surprised, and it would be surprising if he didn't.

Quadruplet Bull Calves

A GOOD grade Hereford cow in the Creelman district, some 45 miles northeast of Weyburn, Sask., gave birth to quadruplet bull calves recently, sending livestock men to dig into the record books.

Nat Woiton, a mixed farmer since 1936, was out working on the morning of Sept. 1, when he decided to check up on a four-year-old cow that was due to calf.

Entering the small pasture, Woiton, to say the least, was astounded when he discovered that the cow had given birth to no less than four bull calves. As Woiton approached them, all four calves were up on their feet and feeding, all at the same time.

News travels fast, even in the country, and in a short space of time, the Woiton farm was flooded with curious onlookers, veterinarians and agriculturists. Some of them were from Missouri and had come to see for themselves.

Farmer Woiton showed the visitors that his prize cow had been kept in a small fenced-in pasture with two other cows, one of which had calved in April and the other was due to calf in January.

Ten days after birth, the calves were weighed by agricultural representative A. M. Crowle. He reported the calves as weighing between 60 and 70 pounds each. At the time of birth, the calves weighed probably between 45 and 55 pounds each.

Livestock men and agriculturists alike started digging into the records to determine whether such a rarity had ever occurred before in Saskatchewan. While nothing could be found in the books immediately, they felt that the quadruplet calves were indeed a real rarity.

All four calves are healthy and as frisky as any calf can be.—Pete Wenger.

Restoration In Korea

PRIOR to the armistice in Korea, President Eisenhower sent a special representative to Korea to investigate ways and means of strengthening the Korean economy. This investiga-

tion was made between April 17 and June 15.

The report of the one-man mission with respect to agriculture supported general recommendations of FAO, which had recently completed a study of Korean agriculture. Principal recommendations included a substantial increase in the application of fertilizer and pesticides, the repair and extension of irrigation systems, changes in land use to increase the production of potatoes and sweet potatoes, and increased emphasis on land reclamation. The mission recommended that domestic grain collections and grain imports be pooled, to avoid cross-hauling and local shortages.

By the fiscal year 1957 it was suggested that consumption levels would be approximately equal to those of 1949-50, with the aid of imports. Grain imports would remain at a fairly high level, but drop sharply in fiscal year 1955, and cease in the fiscal year 1956, by which time the Republic of Korea should achieve "a precarious self-sufficiency in staple foods." Certain foods will, however, be required to supplement the Korean diet, which is deficient in fats and proteins. U.S. surplus commodities, especially butter, dried skim milk, cottonseed oil, peas and beans, can be used to fill this deficiency.

For the fiscal year 1954, \$29 million worth of butter, cheese, dried skim milk, cottonseed, peas and beans were recommended, not only for the Korean armed forces, but for institutions and relief distribution.

Soviet Farm Program

THE Soviet government in Russia appears to have a farm crisis on its hands. On Sunday, September 13 the government issued a decree strongly suggesting that lagging farm production is an important bottleneck in the over-all program for the development of Russia.

An exhaustive report issued by Nikita S. Khrushchev, who for many years was in charge of the farm program in the Ukraine, was delivered to the Central Committee of the Communist Party. It indicated that the number of cattle in the Soviet Union is 8.9 million fewer than before the



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NEWS OF AGRICULTURE



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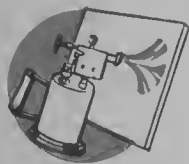
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collectivization of farms in the Soviet Union took place.

The government of the U.S.S.R. seems at last to have been forced, not only to yield to the peasants who were robbed of all incentive to produce, by the ruthless imposition of the collectivization program, but to admit that for years Russian statistics relating to production have been falsified. In 1951 it was claimed that the number of cattle on collective farms had increased by several million. Now the U.S.S.R. admits that last year the number of the cattle in the country decreased by two million. In other words the decrease on farms not collectivized was great enough to turn cattle numbers for the whole country into a decrease of two million head. ✓

June Swine Survey

THE annual survey of livestock in Canada, made each June by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, in co-operation with provincial departments of agriculture, showed 23 per cent fewer hogs on June 1, than on June 1, 1952. Only Alberta failed to register a decrease. The survey showed 13 per cent fewer hogs in western Canada and 29 per cent fewer in eastern Canada. Numbers by important swine raising provinces were: Alberta, 1,180,000 (1952-1,170,000); Ontario, 1,150,000 (1,937,000); Quebec, 867,000 (1,312,000); Saskatchewan, 469,000 (646,000); Manitoba, 287,000 (399,000).

Beef and Pork Loss

THE federal government now holds 10 million pounds of beef in storage and 50 million pounds of pork. These are the quantities remaining after the market operations resulting from the outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease in Saskatchewan last year and the removal of the U.S. embargo. Total loss to the government is not yet determined, but recent reports indicate that it may reach \$50 million.

In all, approximately 85 million pounds of surplus beef and 98 million pounds of pork for canning were purchased. Only about five million pounds of beef have been disposed of on the

domestic market, in addition to the 70 million pounds which was got rid of in the three-way beef exchange deal with Britain. Pork sales have been running about one million pounds a week and represent a very substantial loss, which already has reached about \$10 million. Government purchases are reported to have averaged approximately 57 cents a pound, and the resale price to be about 37 cents a pound wholesale, with storage costs for the quantities held in storage, constantly rising. ✓

Hungry Emus Australian Pest

THE emu, the giant bird of Australia, and a matter of some pride in the Commonwealth, has become a pest. It is the world's second largest bird. It cannot fly, but because it is unique among the 700 bird species in Australia, it has a place on the Commonwealth coat-of-arms.

The emu was once faced with the danger of extinction, but today is counted in thousands in most of the states. In Western Australia a 50-cent bounty is paid on each emu beak delivered to the authorities. Failing to shoot, poison or trap the birds, farmers are now trying to fence them away from wheat farms which they invade just as the crop is ripening, eating the wheat and trampling the stocks with their very large webbed feet. Losses are said to run into the millions of dollars.

Western Australia is erecting a five-foot heavy wire, 135-mile-long fence at a cost of \$130,000. It is designed to hold the birds in a sand plain north of the wheat lands. ✓

Cattle Numbers Increasing

THE June 1 livestock survey based on replies by farmers themselves, to a mail questionnaire from the Dominion Bureau of Statistics in co-operation with provincial departments of agriculture, indicates that numbers of cattle on farms since June 1, 1952, increased in all provinces but Manitoba, averaging about six per cent for all provinces excluding Newfoundland.

The increase in the eastern provinces is about seven per cent and in



Here is an unusual five generation farm picture: (L. to R.) Steve Miko, 94, who uses no cane; Steve Miko, Jr., 70; Mrs. Albert Blaseg, 44; Mrs. Joseph Plasko, 24; and Rita Plasko, 15 months. (Picture from Mrs. Plasko, Bremen, Sask.)

NEWS OF AGRICULTURE

the four western provinces five per cent. The maritime provinces each registered an increase of nine per cent, Ontario seven per cent and Quebec six per cent. In the West, Alberta alone registered a nine per cent increase, Saskatchewan and British Columbia four per cent and Manitoba a decrease of five per cent.

The province with the largest cattle population is Ontario with 2,933,400 head. It was largest not only as to milk cows, but "other cattle" as well. Quebec, second in point of numbers, but with a million fewer cattle than Ontario, had nearly as many milk cows, but less than half as many other cattle.

Alberta, with only 9,800 fewer cattle of all kinds than Quebec, had about 30 per cent of the number of milk cows in either Ontario or Quebec, but 618,000 more other cattle than Quebec.

Saskatchewan, third highest in total cattle numbers, had only 4,000 fewer milk cows than Alberta, but 470,000 fewer cattle. Nevertheless, her 1,150,000 other cattle nearly equalled the combined total of other cattle in Quebec and the three maritime provinces.

Manitoba, notwithstanding a decrease of five per cent, had 150,000 head more than was reported for the three maritime provinces, despite about 30,000 fewer milk cows.

Canada's total cattle population was estimated at 9,713,600, composed of 3,146,200 milk cows and 6,567,400 other cattle. (Milk cows: cows and heifers two years old and over, kept for milk.)

Royal Commission Hearings

THE Saskatchewan Royal Commission on Agriculture and Rural Life has announced provincial hearings for October 5-10 in Regina, and October 13-17 in Saskatoon.

Submissions of 80 different organizations and approximately 20 individuals will be considered at these hearings. Later in the month hearings will be held for provincial government departments and university colleges.

These hearings will complete the second stage of gathering information which was begun in October, 1952. The first stage was completed in June with the holding of more than 50 hearings in as many Saskatchewan communities.

World Sugar Agreement

THE only other international commodity agreement comparable with the International Wheat Agreement, is the World Sugar Agreement recently signed by representatives of 38 countries. It goes into effect January 1, 1954, subject to ratification by the governments represented at the recent meeting of the International Sugar Council in London.

Basic export quotas have been established for the 20 exporting countries and would establish a minimum-maximum price range, or objective, for sugar sold on the free market. An attempt would be made to keep free market sugar within the range set by adjusting basic export quotas.

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NEWS OF AGRICULTURE

Get It At a Glance

High prices for sheep—wheat protein—farm price index — U.S. farm exports down — FAO to meet

Latest DBS estimate of wheat yields per acre in the prairie provinces is 22.9 bushels. By provinces, the estimates are as follows: Manitoba, 20.8 bushels; Saskatchewan, 22.7; and Alberta, 24.1 bushels per acre. All spring wheat is estimated at 567.6 million bushels from 24.8 million acres. ✓

Exports of farm products from the United States for the 1952-53 year, showed a drop of 31 per cent from 1951-52. In the latter year, exports were \$4,053,030,000, as compared with \$2,815,407,000 in 1952-53. The percentage of agricultural products exported, compared with the total of all U.S. exports, dropped to 19 per cent during the last year, as compared with 26 per cent in the previous year. ✓

Old Tulle, oldest horse in the world, has made news again (see The Country Guide, February, 1953). Her owner, Soren Jensen, says the horse has had at least one bottle of beer daily for more than 40 years. Accounts do not agree as to her age, which is either 55 or 59. ✓

The 14th season of National Farm Radio Forum will open on November 2, with a broadcast the subject of which will be "The Ag. Rep. and the Farmer." ✓

The sale of three stud rams and a pen of five lambs from the flock of A. C. B. Grenville, Morin, Alberta, at the annual sheep sale at Ogden, Utah, was reported last month by The Lethbridge Herald. The rams sold for \$2,165, \$2,000 and \$1,650 each, while the pen of five lambs averaged \$800 per head. ✓

Recently retired from the staff of the Economics Division, Marketing Service, Canada Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, was J. Coke, principal economist. Mr. Coke joined the staff of the Division in 1930 when it was first formed. ✓

Ontario now has a provincial potato peeling champion. She (presumably) was to be chosen at a provincial potato field day held in September at the potato farm of the Ontario Agricultural College, located near Hespeler. ✓

An Australian landowner grumbled not long ago because he could not get a buyer for 20 acres of the richest land within 40 miles of Melbourne, which would grow anything. Reason: his price was about \$460 per acre. ✓

The International Wheat Council will meet in Madrid, Spain, this month, to re-allocate quotas for exporting countries, in view of the decision of Britain not to sign the new International Wheat Agreement. ✓

The government of Queensland, Australia, recently decided to cut up the 480,000 acres of land operated by the now discontinued Queensland-

British Food Corporation. It will be cut up into 10,000-acre blocks for grazing, and 5,000-acre blocks for agricultural purposes. ✓

The July index number of farm prices of agricultural products was down five points to 244.9 from the month of June, and down 30.4 points from July, 1952. The annual index number for 1951 was 296.8. ✓

Russia has a large amount of grain available for export, according to the International Federation of Agricultural Producers, and is opening barter trade with a number of western countries. According to the report, Russia has made deals with Denmark, Iceland, Norway, Finland and The Netherlands. Russia was also said to be negotiating with Australia and New Zealand for meat and butter. ✓

Ontario's 14,000 milk producers, whose returns were reported to have been 35 per cent down this year, have welcomed the British decision to buy some Canadian cheese this year. The last British cheese purchase from Canada was five million pounds bought in February. The recent purchase (quantity undisclosed to date) was from government-held stocks. ✓

The Grain Research Laboratory of the Board of Grain Commissioners, recently reported an average protein content of 13 per cent from almost 2,000 samples of new crop wheat. This preliminary estimate compares with 12.8 per cent from a similar survey a year ago, and with the ten-year average of 13.5 per cent. Provincial averages were 12.1 per cent for Manitoba, 13.2 per cent for Saskatchewan, and 13 per cent for Alberta. By grades, No. 1 Northern averaged 13.3 per cent, No. 2 Northern, 13 per cent, and No. 3 Northern, 12.8 per cent. ✓

Last year Japan imported large quantities of barley as a substitute for, or to be mixed with, rice. This year, it is reported that Japan will import about the same amount of rice as last year, but will require only about one-half as much barley. ✓

The Conference of FAO will be held in Rome this year, beginning November 23. ✓

The National Dairy Council of Canada estimated that in June this year the average Canadian worker in manufacturing could buy a quart of milk with nine minutes of labor, as compared with 15.6 minutes of labor required in 1939. In other words an hour's labor would buy 6.4 quarts of milk this year, as compared with only 3.8 quarts before World War II. ✓

The American Meat Institute recently said that in 1952, U.S. meat-packing firms earned a net profit of three-fifths of a cent per dollar of sales. Total sales amounted to \$11.25 billion. Out of each sales dollar producers received 77.6 cents. ✓

NEW-

Six-Cylinder Five-Plow

CASE DIESEL

"500"

New POWER STEERING



Touch a button and it starts on **DIESEL** fuel—no auxiliary gasoline engine, no other fuel. Direct electric starting by 12-volt system. Cold-weather primer uses ether-filled capsules.



"**Powrcel**" controlled combustion provides prolonged piston pressure to produce **DIESEL** power and economy with amazingly smooth operation and clean burning at all speeds and loads.



Single-plunger injection pump with distributor feeds fuel evenly to all six cylinders at all loads.



Six-point filtering system provides extra protection against main cause of **DIESEL** troubles—dirt in fuel. Tank-cap breather filter, filler screen, and water trap besides three stages of fuel filtering.



Power steering with its hydraulic "muscles" keeps the wheels on course, provides amazingly easy steering, absorbs shocks and jolts ordinarily transmitted to steering gear. Reduces strain on driver in tight spots, soft or rough ground.

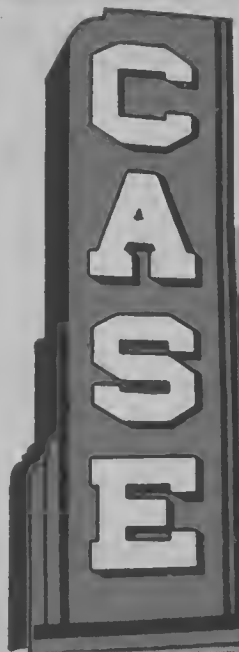


✓ **Easy to Start...**
✓ **Easy to Run...**
✓ **Economical to Operate**

Here is the tractor to help you meet the three-fold challenge of rising farm costs, softening farm prices, and scarcity of good farm help. This new Model "500" Case **DIESEL** gives you the fuel economies of **DIESEL** operation, plus economies in care and maintenance never before achieved in a **DIESEL** tractor.

It's built with the sturdy simplicity you naturally expect from Case . . . has all the Case advantages of Constant Power Take-Off, Dual Valve Constant Hydraulic Control, Double-Disk Differential Brakes. The six-cylinder engine is a completely new Case creation, not a modification or adaptation of any gasoline engine. It's different in design and dimensions from any other engine of any make . . . has a heavy 7-bearing crankshaft . . . multiple cylinder heads that are easy to handle in service operations . . . wet sleeves . . . forced circulation . . . by-pass cooling system for uniform temperature control . . . oil-cushioned clutch. It's the only farm tractor with "**POWRCEL**" controlled combustion that brings forth a smoother, quieter, more even flow of power with clean burning of fuel at all loads.

For all its simple design, compact construction and easy handling, the Case **DIESEL** is a big 5-plow tractor with power to do heavy, grueling work. See it, first chance, at your Case dealer's. Ask about other Case heavy-duty tractors built to burn gasoline, low-cost tractor fuels, or LPG fuel.



Great implements for **DIESEL** power include the new Case 15 and 18-foot heavy-duty, one-way disk plow . . . 5-bottom Case Centennial moldboard plow . . . wide wheel-type and offset disk harrows.

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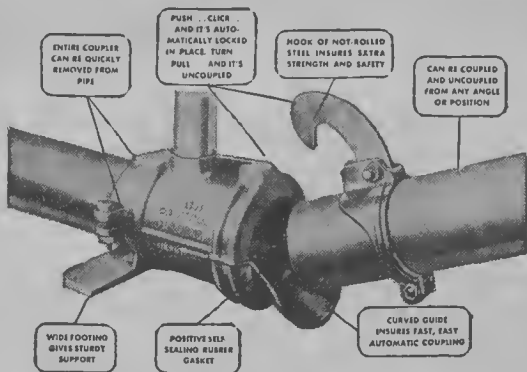
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These products were selected after a careful study of all portable sprinkler irrigation systems available. These lines represent the very best in our opinion. We offer free engineering facilities to any farmer who desires to know just what he should have and how much it will cost.

• Franchise Dealerships are available in all sections of Canada for sale, installation and service of our irrigation equipment. Write to nearest office.



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The most important things in a portable sprinkler irrigation system are the coupler and valves. Hardie Rain Control Coupler provides many exclusive, valuable advantages saving labor, time and avoiding wear on pipe. Hardie Rain Control valves eliminate surging and reduce flow resistance to the minimum. Before you buy, find out all the facts. Compare to know.



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CANADA

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First requirement for healthy pigs is dry, comfortable quarters.

Protect Those Baby Pigs

Most winter sickness can be blamed on faulty feeding. Precautions are cheap and effective

COLD winter months mean more sickness in baby pigs, but most of that sickness will not be caused by disease germs. Rather, the cause of most winter pig losses is incomplete feeding. Fresh green pasture is not available, the pigs cannot root in the sods, or lie in the sun, and it takes extra care to keep them healthy. Pigs that don't get the extra care will not do well.

Anemia, rickets and goitre are three diseases that must, and can, be prevented easily. The first step is to see that pregnant sows are fed cod liver oil, or a good feeding oil, and if possible, good alfalfa hay, in the winter.

Anemia, says the Alberta Department of Agriculture, is usually noticed after the first week of life. Sometimes the pig just dies. Often, the hair is dull and the pigs show no playfulness. Sometimes there is labored breathing, and in white breeds the pigs are pale.

A shortage of iron causes this, so it is good practice to give some "reduced iron" to every pig born on the farm. Enough iron to cover half of a ten-cent piece, given to each pig the second or third day of life, and repeated at seven-day intervals until the pigs are at least three weeks old, will prevent the sickness. Another method is to dig fresh sods (in the fall, if necessary) and place them in the pens twice a week for the pigs to root in. These sods can be sprinkled with a solution of iron sulphate, made by dissolving one ounce of iron sulphate in a quart of water.

When goitre—an iodine deficiency—strikes, it is usually too late to cure it,

for pigs will be born dead, or will die shortly after birth. The pigs will be hairless and may show a thickness around the neck. But here again it can be prevented easily by dissolving seven ounces of potassium iodide in a gallon of water, and giving a tablespoonful of this to the pregnant sow once a week. The solution must be kept in a glass or enamelware container.

Pigs that are weak and unthrifty—those that stagger, or walk in circles, and are sore in the joints and squeal with pain when handled—probably have rickets. A shortage of calcium and phosphorus and vitamin D causes their trouble; and in older pigs, it might be expressed as swollen arthritic joints. Prevention, of course, means feeding the sow enough minerals and vitamin D. Little pigs that are suffering from it usually can be cured, by feeding them a few drops of cod liver oil daily.

Remember, says Dr. O'Donoghue, extension veterinarian, most diseases of baby pigs can be prevented by feeding the sow properly, providing clean, dry, warm quarters, and regularly giving iron and cod liver oil to the young pigs. ✓

Choosing Breeding Stock

THE well-fleshed, typey and growthy ewe lambs, gilts and heifers will bring the highest prices on the market, but are these the ones to sell? The stockman who is maintaining a breeding herd or flock will

LIVESTOCK

be further ahead to keep these good animals and send his poorest ones to market. These good animals will produce young that will be likely to inherit the quick-maturing, easy fattening qualities that pay off in the feed lot, or on pasture.

When picking out the heifers to be kept, it's a good idea to check the cow and calf together. If the calf is a better individual than her mother, it is well to keep the calf, and breed the cow to the same bull again. In the fall, the good producer is usually a growthy, feminine-appearing cow with a good udder, but she may not carry much flesh. She should regain her weight after the calf is weaned.

Gilts that are fast-growing, and come from large litters and are of good bacon type are the kind to keep. Ewe lambs can be selected in the same manner as heifers. V

Buying Your Herd Sire

THIS fall may be a good time to buy a bull. Animals that will be ready for service next spring are seven or eight months of age now. If they can be purchased and developed right at their new home, their cost may be less than if they are bought at service age. It is important to buy a good calf though.

Often there is a different answer to the herd-sire needs of many stock breeders right in the neighborhood. It is a four or five-year-old bull that can no longer be used by its present owner, because its own daughters are coming back into the herd. This bull might be purchased reasonably, and if it has been well cared for, and is sound in feet and legs, it might continue to breed for several years. The biggest advantage from purchasing such a bull, is that its own offspring can be examined. A proven breeding animal is a far safer buy than an untried calf. V

Build a Bull Paddock

THE place for the dairy herd sire is in a box stall of its own, with an attached exercise yard. This will mean safer handling of the bull, and a healthier animal.

A pen 11 by 14 feet, with manger and stanchion in one corner, should be suitable. A nine-inch concrete wall extending two feet above the ground makes a good foundation, and either clay or concrete can be used for the floor.

Exercise is essential in keeping a bull active and potent. The exercise yard should be located where the cows will pass by it, or at least where the bull can see them. A long, narrow yard is best. One 20 by 60 feet will induce the bull to take more exercise than will a square yard. The fence must be sturdy, with posts not less than six or eight inches in diameter, and nine feet long. They can be set three feet into the ground and spaced six to eight feet apart. Two-by-six-inch planks nailed with spikes, or bolted to the posts, complete a fence that will hold the bull. The fence can

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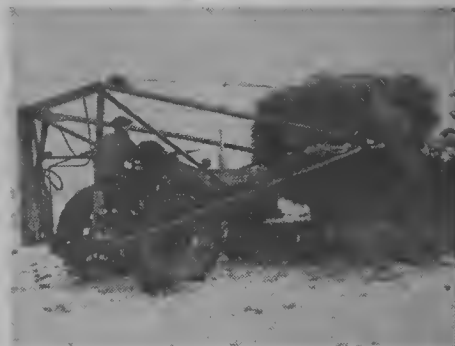
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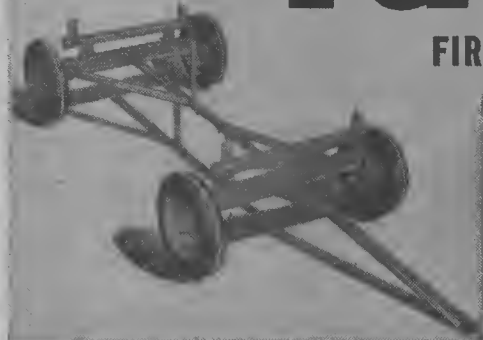


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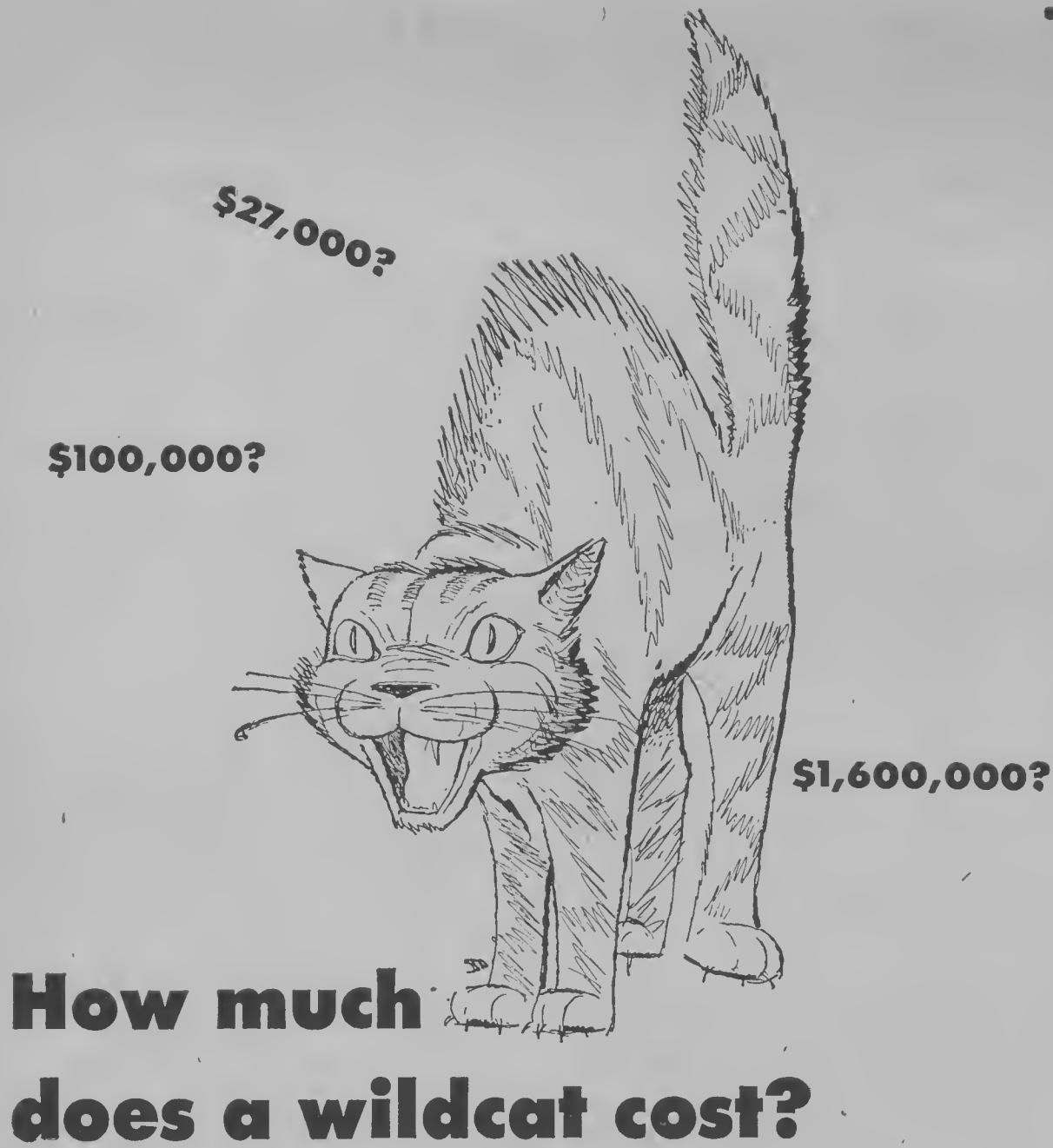
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I am a Farmer ☐

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How much does a wildcat cost?

A "wildcat" is a well drilled in an area where oil has never been found. Drilling costs vary, but the average wildcat in western Canada runs to more than \$100,000. One well cost \$1,600,000—and found no oil!

Oil is making an increasingly important contribution to our standard of living. How many of these questions about it can you answer?

How many wildcat wells find a new oil field—

1 in 3? 1 in 7? 1 in 23?

Since 1939 the cost of living index has risen by 85%. During that time has the price you pay for gasoline gone up by—

44%? 79%? 103%?

A lot of oil has been discovered in the west since 1946. In that time have Canada's oil reserves increased—

4 times? 23 times? 37 times?

How many companies, would you say, are engaged in the oil business in Canada—

23? 174? 750?

Canada's growing oil industry means orders for many businesses, jobs for many Canadians. Last year Imperial's purchasing department bought equipment and supplies from Canadian firms amounting to—

\$12 millions? \$56 millions?
\$110 millions?

The long-term average in western Canada is 1 in 23. Only 1 in 87 has found a field capable of producing as much as 2,000 barrels a day.

The average retail price of gasoline is only 44% higher than prewar, even with higher road taxes in all provinces.

Reserves have increased 23-fold in the past six years. Canadian fields now supply all the prairies and part of B.C. and Ontario.

About 750 companies in which the public has an investment interest, as well as several hundred private firms and partnerships. And this doesn't include the thousands of privately operated service stations and other retail and wholesale outlets for oil products.

\$56 millions. About 4,500 Canadian companies sold Imperial supplies ranging from heavy steel plates to paper clips.

IMPERIAL OIL LIMITED
oil makes a country strong



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be made five planks high, with the bottom one ten inches from the ground, and the others spaced eight inches apart. All fencing material must be on the inside of the posts. A barbed wire charged with intermittent electric current may be used to keep the bull back from the paddock fence.

Every bull corral should have a safety breeding stall built into it near the gate. If young heifers are bred to older heavy bulls, a breeding rack placed in the stall is of value. Females can then be led into the breeding stall although the owner does not enter the corral.

Young Animals Make Cheaper Gains

BULLS at the Lethbridge Experimental Station last year ate \$11.26 worth of feed to raise their weight from 400 to 500 pounds. When the same bulls reached a weight of 900 pounds, it took \$19.97 worth of feed to gain another 100 pounds. At the early weight, they only ate 194 pounds of hay and 373 pounds of grain while making their gains; but at the heavier weights, they needed 259 pounds of hay and 695 pounds of grain.

The bulls in this test ate measured amounts of feed right from the start; and as they got older they ate progressively more feed to make the same gains. This is an important point to cattle feeders who must decide what kind of cattle to finish, and how much finish they should put on. Dr. F. Whiting, senior animal nutritionist at Lethbridge, suggests that in many cases it may be more profitable to feed more cattle to a medium finish than to feed fewer cattle to a high finish; or that it may be better to feed calves, rather than yearlings, or two-year-olds.

Damaged Feed

THE feed value of frozen or sprouted grains will vary with its quality, says Dr. F. Whiting, senior animal nutritionist at the Lethbridge Experimental Station, but these grains are not poisonous to livestock. He suggests that the idea that they are poisonous may have arisen when too much sprouted or frozen wheat was added to the ration at one time. Wheat, even when normal, is a heavy feed, and livestock must be accustomed to it gradually.

Slightly frozen or slightly sprouted grain will be equal in feed value to normal grain for all classes of stock. Badly frozen or sprouted grain will still make good feed for sheep and cattle, but will be less valuable for poultry and swine, which do not make good use of fibrous feeds.

Dr. Whiting warns against feeding moldy, or heated grain or hay to livestock. Most molds are not harmful, but some are, and it is impossible to tell, by appearance, whether a feed is safe or not. If slightly molded feed must be given to animals, it should never be put through a feed chopper, since they are then unable to sort it out. Livestock fed moldy or heated feed should be watched closely, and if they

LIVESTOCK

start to go off feed, the ration should be changed.

The agronomist at the North Dakota Agricultural College says that hay and straw from wheat and other small grains infected with stem or leaf rust, is safe as a feed for livestock. It is pointed out that there has been no injury to livestock in the past when they ate rusted straw. However, the badly rusted feed will have less appeal to the animals, and they will not eat it as readily, or in as large amounts. ✓

Shelter for Beef Cattle

WINTER shelter for beef cattle means a dry bed and protection from cold winds. Elaborate buildings are not needed.

For many years, the Experimental Farm, Brandon, Manitoba, has used an open-front shed, with frame walls and a pole roof covered with straw. The south side is completely open, while the three other sides are single-boarded and set on cement footings. Hay and silage are provided in the corrals on the south side.

Even the cost of the cement footings can be eliminated with pole barns, for though half a century ago poles rotted to the ground after ten years, they will last for 50 to 60 years now. The secret of this long life lies in pressure treatment with a preservative such as creosote. ✓

Equipment Means Less Work

THE last 13 years have seen great changes in farming methods, and the most important of these has been the swing from hand work, to mechanization. A farmer is now less of a worker, and more of a manager, and thus each farmer who will streamline his methods, can produce a lot more food at lower cost.

For instance, if hay is stored on the ground floor of the barn and fitted with a movable self-feeding manger, the cows can feed themselves with a once-a-day check by the operator. Silage can be stored in a stack or trench silo and fed directly to the stock, to cut down labor again. Even arranging the barn layout so that the

silage can be fed directly from the upright silo will mean less work and more time for other jobs. When bedding is chopped and stored next to or above the open bedded area of loafing barns, it can easily be forked into the pen when cows are away in some other area.

H. J. Hargrave, Animal Husbandman at the Lethbridge Experimental Station tells of one farmer who stacks hay in eight to ten-ton stacks, with an overshot stacker or with hydraulic equipment. These individual stacks are later transported intact to a feed lot or stockyard by means of a large platform on rubber tires. Two cables around the base slide the stack onto the platform and it is moved off after it has been drawn to its new location. One man moved ten stacks nearly a mile one day using this method, and he noted that he gathered up less than a hayrack full of hay from the original ten stack bottoms. The weatherproof top was not disturbed in the moving, and the stacks were self-fed during the winter.

Such labor-saving methods will result in lower production costs, and will allow farmers to raise more stock without doing any extra work. ✓

Boars Are Not To Eat

WHEN a big boar comes into a packing plant, for slaughter, its chances of ever being eaten as meat are slim. Though Canada's Health of Animals inspectors don't like to condemn meat, they won't let poor meat get into butcher shops and stores, and boar meat is often just that. The heavy sexual odor of boars is apparent in their carcasses, and the inspector catching wind of such carcasses will usually send them right to the tank. That means they may be used to fertilize someone's field, but will never adorn his dinner plate.

"Every time we condemn such an animal, it may mean a waste of four or five hundred pounds of meat," one inspector said. "We don't like to do that, but there is no alternative. It's entirely up to the man shipping the boar. It's a small job to emasculate the animal, and let him heal up. Then, when he is completely healed, and not one day before, he will make good meat. That's the way he should be shipped."



Grass was plentiful and the beef herd fat and content at the Lacombe Experimental Station this summer. These Shorthorns relax on pasture.

MAINTAIN CAPACITY MILK FLOW!

This double-duty antibiotic

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You can milk *more* quarters... market *more* milk... make *more* dairy profits... by being continually on guard against mastitis. Be prompt when this costly disease strikes!

AUREOMYCIN is the antibiotic with the widest range of activity. It exerts extremely powerful activity against mastitis organisms... is more broadly effective than penicillin. AUREOMYCIN OINTMENT for Udder Infusion *Lederle*, with its free-flowing base and complete suspension of aureomycin, penetrates rapidly and thoroughly to all parts of treated quarters... remains active in the udder for many hours... quickly returns most cows to production of salable milk. AUREOMYCIN OINTMENT is available in a

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convenient, easy-to-use, infusion-tip tube.

In cases of acute septic mastitis, and in persistent staphylococcal infection, in addition to udder infusion, the injectable form of SULMET* Sodium Sulfamethazine** *Lederle* may also be used. Subsequent treatment may be conducted with SULMET Sulfamethazine OBLET* Veterinary Tablets *Lederle*. AUREOMYCIN Crystalline INTRAVENOUS** Veterinary *Lederle* may be used in the treatment of severe acute septicemia as a highly effective agent against most bacteria.

For best management practices and disease-control procedures for avoidance of mastitis, consult your veterinarian. Write for folder on AUREOMYCIN OINTMENT.

**To be used on the advice of a veterinarian.

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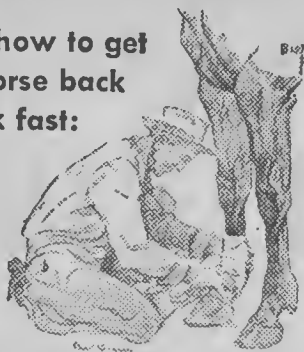
It lasted five times as long as any previous battery — outlasted the service life of two cars and ran 34,875 miles in the third — was never recharged. "Our patrol cars work 24 hours a day and have such extra electrical equipment as sirens, flashing lights and two-way radio."

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There's nothing like Absorbine for lameness due to windgall, sore shoulder, similar congestive troubles. Not a "cure-all," but a time-proved help... used by many veterinarians. A standby over 50 years, it will not blister or remove hair. Only \$2.50 at all druggists.

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Lye Helps Many Ways In Farmhouse

There are dozens of ways in which lye speeds and eases work for the farmer's wife. Four of these are outlined below:

CLOGGED DRAINS —

These are a nuisance, unsanitary, and if neglected will result in costly plumber's bills. To unblock bad stoppages, put 3 tablespoons of Gillett's Lye down drain, followed by a cup of hot water, allow to stand. Repeat if necessary. To keep drains free-flowing pour down two tablespoons of lye each week, followed by a cup of water.

CLEANING STOVES

Lye is the natural enemy of greasy dirt that can gather and cake on and in stoves. To speed cleaning: scrub with a stiff brush and a solution of 2 tablespoons of lye to a gallon of water.

OUTHOUSES —

Sprinkle in half a cup of Gillett's Lye once a week. Helps dissolve contents and remove odors. Scrub premises with solution of 3 tablespoons per pail of water. Keeps out-houses spotless, sanitary, fly-free.

SOAP —

First quality soap can be made for about 1¢ a big bar with lye. For best directions, see the label on the Gillett's Lye tin.

GLF-203

USE
GILLETT'S
100% PURE
LYE



FIELD



With this year's crop off the job of raising next year's is begun.

Winter Care of Farm Machinery

During the winter months rust and rot can cause losses of farm capital invested in machinery

FARM machinery is expensive, and some of its value is lost if it is allowed to rust during the months when it is not in use.

If it can be done without too great a cost it is desirable to have such machines as the thresher-combine, binder, drill and tractor under cover. An inexpensive shed or roof cover is quite adequate.

Whether they are put under cover or not, all rubber-mounted machines should be put on blocks to relieve the pressure on the tires. With self-propelled machines great care should be exercised in preparing the motor for storage. Drain the crankcase, air cleaner and oil filter; put in new oil and run the engine for a few minutes to allow the oil to circulate and thus leave a film of oil on the metal; drain the fuel and cooling systems and cover the exhaust.

It is suggested by the Experimental Farm, Brandon, Manitoba, that when machines are being checked for badly worn or broken parts, any dirt that may be caked on moving parts should be thoroughly cleaned away by washing with kerosene. Smooth, shiny surfaces should be covered with a good layer of grease, or thick steam cylinder oil.

Harvesting equipment needs special attention when it is being prepared for winter storage. All canvases should be removed and repaired and stored in a dry place. There are some canvas preservatives on the market, one of which might be used to good advantage.

All belts, both V-type and flat, should be removed for storage, inspected, and renewed if excessive wear is apparent. Chains should be inspected for wear, links replaced where necessary, and the chain coated with rust preservative or heavy grease. Bearings which are not pre-lubricated or self-oiling, should be removed, cleaned with kerosene and solvent, wiped dry and coated with a rust preventive oil.

The cutter bars on combines and mowers should be given special atten-

tion. Ledger plates and guards should be repaired, and broken sections replaced. Sickles should be removed for storage, the broken sections replaced, and the cutter bar sprayed with a rust preventive compound. The pick-ups on combines and balers should be examined for broken tines, bent guards, worn bearings, and other signs of wear or depreciation.

The sieves, screens and augers on combines and threshers should be examined, and removed and repaired if necessary, and the body cleaned of chaff, straw and loose grain. Such accumulations will hold dampness against the machine and may cause rotting or rust.

Paint provides good protection for the body and frame of equipment. It may not be necessary to paint every year, advises the Experimental Farm, Swift Current, Saskatchewan, but touch-up jobs before storage will prevent rust and improve the general appearance of machinery.

Getting the machinery in such condition that it will go through the winter without depreciating will take a lot of time. The return for the work will be in longer living machinery and better service in the rush seasons of the year.

Electricity Warning

THERE are too many people who, having used electricity for a time but without any real knowledge of it, believe they can take liberties with it. Such people are likely to think it is smart to put a penny in a fuse socket, if the fuse burns out. The fact that they can sometimes get away with it, makes the practice all the more dangerous. The truth is that a penny in a fuse socket can set your house afire by causing the wires to be overheated.

The Extension Service of the Iowa State College in a recent survey found that in 106 out of 443 farm homes pennies had been used to "fix" fuses. What these people did not know, apparently, is that when a fuse burns out it is a sign that something other

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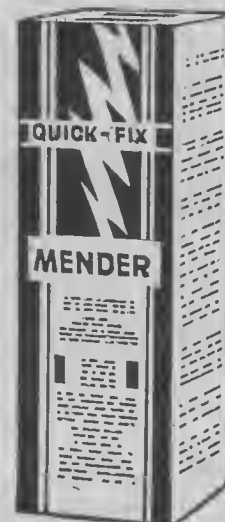
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FIELD

than the fuse needs fixing. The chances are the wires are overloaded, perhaps with too many appliances on the same circuit. There may be some defect in one of the appliances. When the fuse burns out it cuts off the current, thus protecting the user from what might turn out to be a very disastrous fire. When a penny is put in instead of a new fuse the trouble is not corrected. Sometimes overloaded

wires smolder inside house walls for some days before they are discovered.

It is safer and much more sensible to keep a few fuses of the right sizes in a convenient place near the service box, so that if a fuse does blow out it can be replaced. Light circuits take a 15-ampere fuse and circuits carrying appliances take a 20-ampere fuse. Electricity is a very efficient servant if it is well treated. V

Keeping Quality In Potatoes

Potatoes may be of good quality when they are dug in the fall, yet be poor in the spring

OF all the farm crops on the prairies probably none gets such offhand treatment from non-commercial producers as the potato. Yet almost every farm has its own small patch, and the products of the potato patch find their way onto the table almost every day. Carelessness this fall and winter may be responsible for soft or off-flavor potatoes on the dinner table next spring and summer.

The Experimental Farm at Brandon, Manitoba, points out that storing potatoes in the basement of a dwelling house is not satisfactory, owing to the difficulty of providing the necessary ventilation. Proper basement ventilation can be provided only by building an insulated room into which a four-inch pipe is run through a window or through a hole bored in the basement wall. A damper should be installed on the outside of the pipe to regulate the air current.

The recommended temperature for storing table stock is 40° F. If it is possible to keep seed stock at 38° F. better results will be obtained in the spring.

Potatoes will keep better if placed in slatted bins with slatted floors made of six-inch boards spaced one-quarter

to three-eighths of an inch apart. This allows air to circulate through the potatoes. Avoid putting the entire potato crop into storage at one time. Put in a layer of potatoes to a depth of about one foot and allow them to cool. The depth of potatoes in the bin should never exceed five or six feet and the bins should not be more than 10 or 12 feet square.

If you suspect that your potatoes may be diseased, sort the tubers carefully when they are being stored, burn the tops, and plant new seed on new ground next spring.

THOSE farmers who are producing for the market in Saskatchewan will now have to be even more cautious as to the quality of their product. Regulations governing the grading and sale of potatoes under the Vegetable and Honey Sales Act, 1947, have been approved and became effective in Regina and Saskatoon on September 1. The regulations require that all potatoes sold in stores in these two cities shall be graded in conformity with grades established under the federal Fruit, Vegetable and Honey Act. The regulations do not apply to sales made directly from the producer to the final consumer. V

Structure In the Soil

IT is easy to think of soil as being less sensitive than it really is. Much has been said of the importance of not working fields at too high speeds with tillage machines, and of not working clay when it is too wet. In the interests of the soil it is also important not to work it when it is very dry, or with the wrong implement.

A soil is said to have good structure when it readily takes in and retains moisture, when it has plenty of air capacity, when it allows the exchange of soil air with the atmosphere, and when it resists wind and water erosion, and does not resist root penetration. All of these things are attained at once, when the soil is formed in aggregates, rather than being lumpy or slaked.

Working the soil will improve or damage structure: whether it is improved or damaged will depend on the conditions and manner of working.

Soil just below the plastic or sticky stage is in the ideal condition for working. If much wetter it may form into hard lumps, and if drier it may slake down. The best implement to

use is one that will kill the weeds while disturbing the soil as little as possible. The speed of operation must bear a relationship to the moisture in the soil: excessive speeds will damage structure very much more if the soil is too wet, or too dry. Disk implements will do more harm than blades or cultivators. V

How Long Will Seeds Live?

NO prairie farmer accustomed to wild oats needs to be told that seeds of this weed can lie in the soil for a long time, awaiting the opportunity to pollute his crop. There have been many tests of longevity, a great many of them of seed that has been kept in storage for a normal length of time, or seed that has been taken from botanical specimens kept for a long time. For example, a French scientist discovered some seed in the National Museum of Paris, which dated back to 1819. Some of it germinated. He found a few seeds to germinate that were known to be 158 years old. Tests were made in the Kew Botanical Gardens in England on red clover, sweet clover and bird tre-

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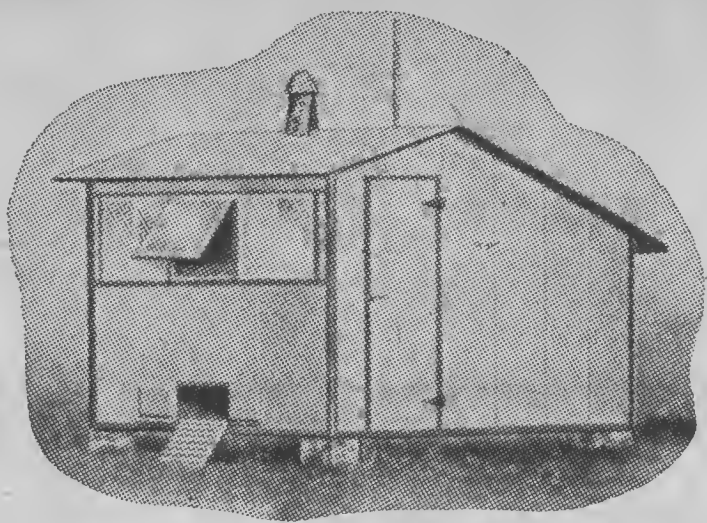
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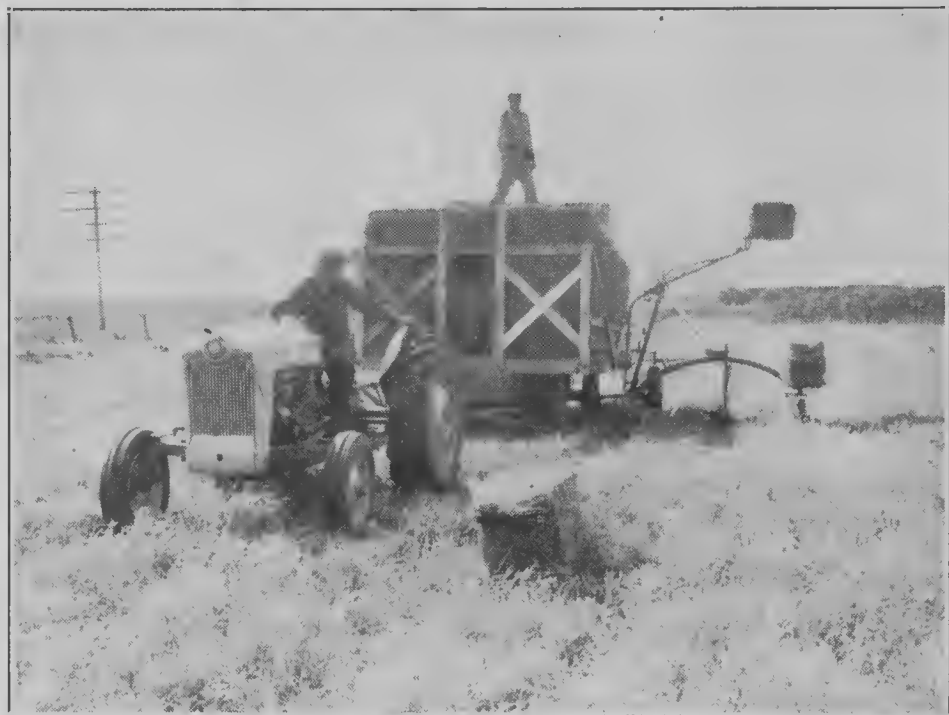
foil. The seed had been in storage for 81 years. On these tests, 9.6 per cent of the bird trefoil seeds germinated.

Dr. W. J. Beal of the Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station set up a famous seed viability experiment in 1879. He gathered 1,000 seeds of 20 different plants, put 50 seeds of each kind in sand-filled bottles, then buried the bottles in the soil to a depth of 18 inches. He intended to dig up one bottle every five years up to 1920, and after this to dig one up every ten years. In 1939, this seed had been buried for 60 years, and yet 68 per cent of the mock mullein dug up that year germinated; and 24 per cent of evening primrose seed germinated, as well as four per cent of curly dock.

Ten years before, after 50 years, 52 per cent of the curly dock had ger-

minated, and eight per cent of black mustard. After 40 years, four per cent of common ragweed and four per cent of lamb's quarters germinated, as well as two per cent of purslane and American peppergrass.

In 1902, the United States Department of Agriculture began a buried seed project of both weed and crop seeds. In 20 years or less, barley, oats, rye, meadow fescue, corn, asparagus, onion, cabbage, turnip, milkweed, peas, beans, cow-pea, watermelon, muskmelon, pepper, tomato, lettuce, sunflower and cucumber had died; but after 20 years, 18.5 per cent of Kentucky blue grass germinated, 12.5 per cent of timothy, 15.5 per cent of clover, 10.5 per cent of celery, and one per cent of beet.



[Guide photo]

This bale loader, in use at the Experimental Farm, Indian Head, Sask., loads the bales as you drive.

The Search for Better Pastures

A small army of Canadian research workers are devoting their time to improving pastures and grasses

DOWN through the history of the world green pastures have become a symbol of stability, peace and abundance. This is still true in Canada today, where grass is the basis for agriculture and the source material for most food.

The intrinsic value of grass, coupled with its economic value and its use in any program of soil conservation makes it important, and scientists and research workers of the Canada Department of Agriculture are continually attempting to preserve and improve our pastures.

The Experimental Farm Service and the Science Service of the Department of Agriculture co-operate in pasture research. Work is being conducted at the 29 experimental farms and stations in all provinces and on many of the 220 sub-stations and illustration stations from coast to coast. Since 1932 the Division of Illustration Stations has been carrying on extensive pasture improvement tests under varying soil and climatic conditions from Prince Edward Island to British Columbia. During this same period nearly 1½ million acres of community pas-

tures were operated by the P.F.R.A. in Saskatchewan and Manitoba as an aid to livestock producers.

It has been established that the cost per acre of producing permanent pasture herbage is low compared with the cost of producing nutrients in other crops. With no cost for harvest and tillage operations, it was found three years ago that permanent pasture herbage could be produced for \$6.30 per ton of dry matter, timothy hay at \$7.60, alfalfa hay at \$6.85, alfalfa silage at \$8.50 and corn silage at \$15.60 a ton.

The real economy of a crop must be measured by the return it brings when sold through livestock. In the case of grass, which is consumed directly by the grazing animal, with no cost for harvesting or processing it, the total cost of the crop may be very small.

It is easy to assume that grass will just continue to grow, as it has grown since time immemorial. This conclusion is not accepted by a large number of research workers, who are developing varieties and methods that will increase grass and hay production.

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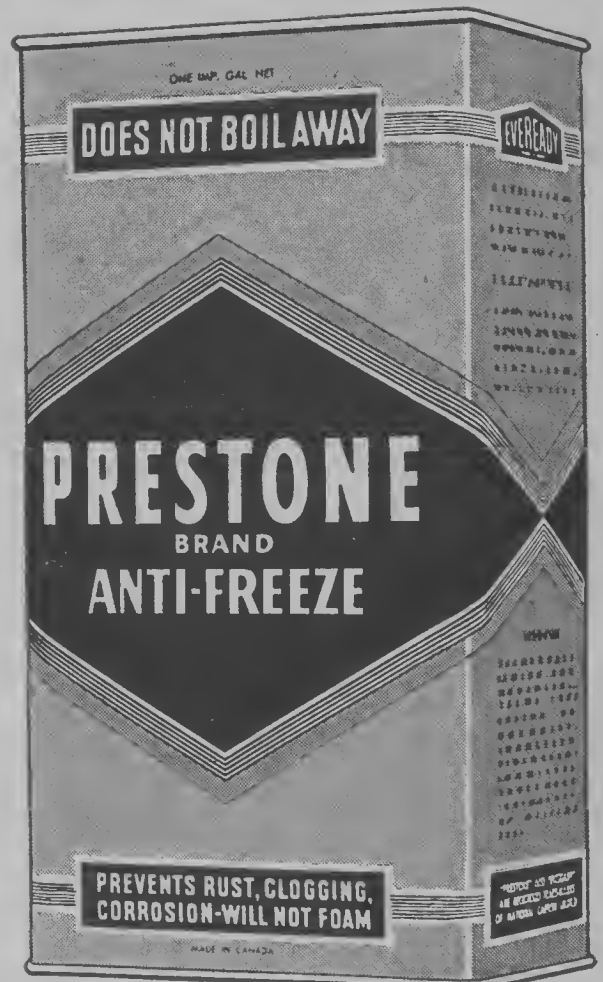
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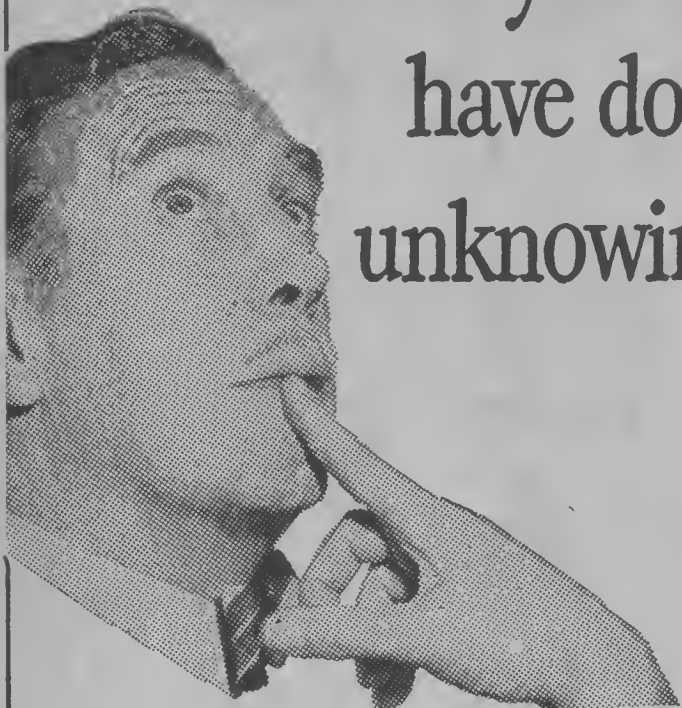
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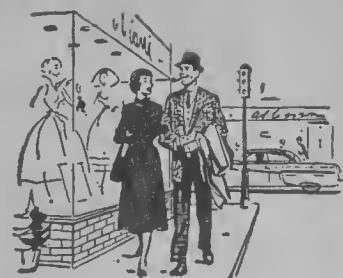


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HORTICULTURE



Tree in the Indian Head Experimental Farm orchard very badly yellowed by chlorosis, a little understood nutritional ailment.

Winter Insulation For Plants

Care required in covering tender plants over winter, to prevent loss from drying, heaving or cold

CANADIAN horticulturists have good reason to know that plants vary a great deal in their capacity to withstand cold. Gradually, our experimental stations and universities have sought out, and found—sometimes by painstaking plant breeding work—types and varieties of most kinds of plants generally suitable to our climate, which will withstand the rigors of prairie winters. Even yet, however, if only plants were grown which were fully hardy, our choice, particularly of fruits, flowers and ornamental shrubs and trees, would be very limited.

Most people who take an interest in either of these types of horticultural plants, have experimented at some time or other with varieties which, though possessing some degree of hardiness, cannot be counted on to come through, winter after winter. Special measures are, therefore, necessary sometimes to protect fruits like raspberries and many shrubs and flowers against the extremes of winter that may be met with, especially in the central and northern parts of the prairie provinces.

As R. W. Oliver, Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, pointed out some time ago; it is fortunate for most gardeners that cold climates have fair snowfall, because this is nature's way of providing plants with the best insulating material at the lowest cost. It is not always safe to depend on a snow covering, because the prairie provinces also have strong winds, and the comparatively level nature of much of our land gives a sweep to wind, which often prevents the snow from settling where it is needed. This is the primary reason why shelterbelts are so widely advocated, and why a good, thick hedge or generous planting of shrubbery on the windward side of the garden is so helpful.

There would be little need for other insulation if a good covering of snow could be maintained. Occasionally, a winter is met with during which the

temperature fluctuates so much that the snow does not build up. A thaw followed by sudden freezes tends to cause the ground to heave, the roots to break and be exposed to the drying action of the wind. In some winters a substantial amount of winter injury is caused by the drying action of cold and of the wind. This means that moisture is withdrawn from the cells of the woody plants and death may be only indirectly due to the cold, but directly to lack of moisture. In such cases, some ground covering, particularly of snow, would help to prevent sudden changes in the soil temperatures.

Any protective coverings given plants over winter, to be ideal, should not pack down into a wet, soggy mass which might create a suffocating blanket. Because of this danger, leaves are less satisfactory than straw. In either case, these should be removed as early as possible in the spring, before they have a chance to pack down from the spring rains and the melting of snow.

Where it is desired to hold as much snow as possible, branches, especially of spruce or other evergreens, scattered in those parts of the garden or flower beds which most need protection, will tend to hold the snow. Once held, it is valuable not only for winter protection, but for added moisture in areas where additional moisture is generally needed. V

Manitoba Fruit Show

THE Manitoba Provincial Fruit Show was held this year at Portage la Prairie. Some 40 individual growers, representing about 20 points throughout the province, provided a total of 184 entries. In addition, educational displays were provided by the Experimental Station at Morden, and by the University of Manitoba, as well as by the Manitoba Boys' School at Portage

HORTICULTURE

and the Poplar Point Horticultural Society. C. R. Ure, in charge of tree fruits at Morden, and one of the judges, reported that the quality of fruit was exceptionally high. Entries in apple and crabapple sections were also heavy, but there were light entries of plums and plum-sandcherry classes.

Other judges in addition to Mr. Ure were Professor E. T. Andersen, Division of Plant Science, University of Manitoba, and W. Stein of the Manitoba Department of Agriculture. The 1954 provincial fruit show will be held at Brandon. V

Storing Winter Potatoes

THE principal objects in the storing of garden products for winter consumption are the prevention of moisture losses and of decay. Quite a number of factors are involved in successful storage, and N. M. Parks, Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, says that successful storage of potatoes, for example, depends on temperature, humidity, air circulation, exclusion of light, soundness of the tubers, freedom from the soil, surface moisture and depth of tubers in the bin.

The best storage is effected when the potatoes are fully mature, free from severe bruises and apparent disease, as well as dry and free from excess soil. Best temperature immediately after harvesting is around 60°F., for about ten days, to permit any cuts or bruises to heal. After this period the storage should be cooled, if possible, to around 40°F. Before they are used they should be kept at from 60 to 70°F. for a week or so, said Mr. Parks. If stored below 40°F., the starch in the potato tubers tends to revert to sugar, which leads to soggy-ness, discoloration and a sweetish taste.

About 80 per cent humidity is recommended, which is high enough to retard shrinkage, and low enough, under general conditions, to prevent the formation of free moisture on the surface of the tubers. V

Fall Moisture For Evergreens

EVERGREENS should not be allowed to go through the winter in dry soil. If there is any suggestion in late fall, before freeze-up, that the soil is somewhat dry, a good soaking may keep them in good condition.

What many people do not appreciate is that the needles of the evergreen trees are really small leaves. Because these needles are carried through the winter and the year round, they continue to give off some moisture during the winter months. If they are growing in dry soil, there is no way during the winter months by which this moisture may be replaced in the soil and severe injury is almost certain to result. This is most likely to happen when warm days come in spring, while the ground is still frozen.

Water thoroughly and try to see that the entire area occupied by the feeding roots of the tree, or shrub, is thoroughly soaked. V

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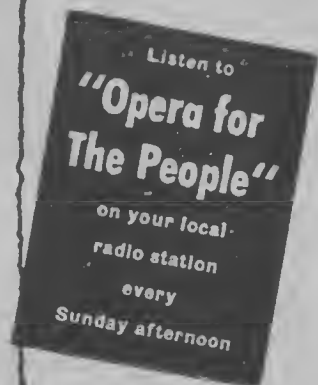
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HORTICULTURE

New Method Of Controlling Mice

MICE can do a great deal of damage during the winter and spring months, in orchards where there are young trees; and especially if long grass or weeds have been allowed to grow under the trees and around the trunks. An effective method of controlling mice in large commercial orchards was developed in New York State a year or two ago, where such orchards had suffered a great deal of damage from this little pest. The same method could be used to advantage on lawns, where mice occasionally do considerable damage.

It was found at Cornell, after two or three years of experimental testing, that mice will readily find marked bait distributed widely and at random in the grass and not along their regular runways. Small portions of grain baits were placed at marked sites, five feet apart in the grass, and after nearly a thousand such placements over a three-year period, it was discovered that field mice will find and eat, over night, some of the poison bait from 41 per cent of the placements. It was then felt that if grain baits were distributed by any method, but preferably mechanically to save labor, in lines across an orchard or threatened area, at 10 to 20 grains per foot of row, the mice would easily and quickly find the bait.

After many tests, coarsely cracked corn was used, with 2 per cent zinc phosphide added; and the grain was colored green to protect birds from chance eating of the bait.

The grain was distributed by using a hand-operated garden seeder, after taking off the furrow openers and closers. In commercial orchards, a single line of prepared bait was distributed along the drip-line (outer edge of the tree branches). Two years' testing indicated that control was from 75 to 85 per cent effective, while the labor saved in commercial orchards was also about 75 per cent. It is reported that the results are quite as satisfactory as where baits are hand distributed.

Some precautions are necessary. Baits should be dropped deep into the grass fairly early in the autumn before it mats down, and preferably before the leaf fall. The mice can find it readily and it will be hidden from other forms of wildlife. No bait should be put on bare spots or across roadways or car tracks. Cornell reports that no wild birds of any type are known to have been killed by the bait.

A common method in prairie orchards is to use small grains treated with strychnine. This, however, may well be dangerous, and it is better to use small open-end boxes, about six inches square inside measurement. A bottom board that is longer than the top board is used to provide a three or four-inch platform entrance at each end of the box. The poison grain is then scattered inside the box and near the entrance. Two or three of these in small farm orchards, placed near the runways if these are known, and visited once or twice during the winter to replenish the supply of poison grain, have been quite effective at the Morden station.



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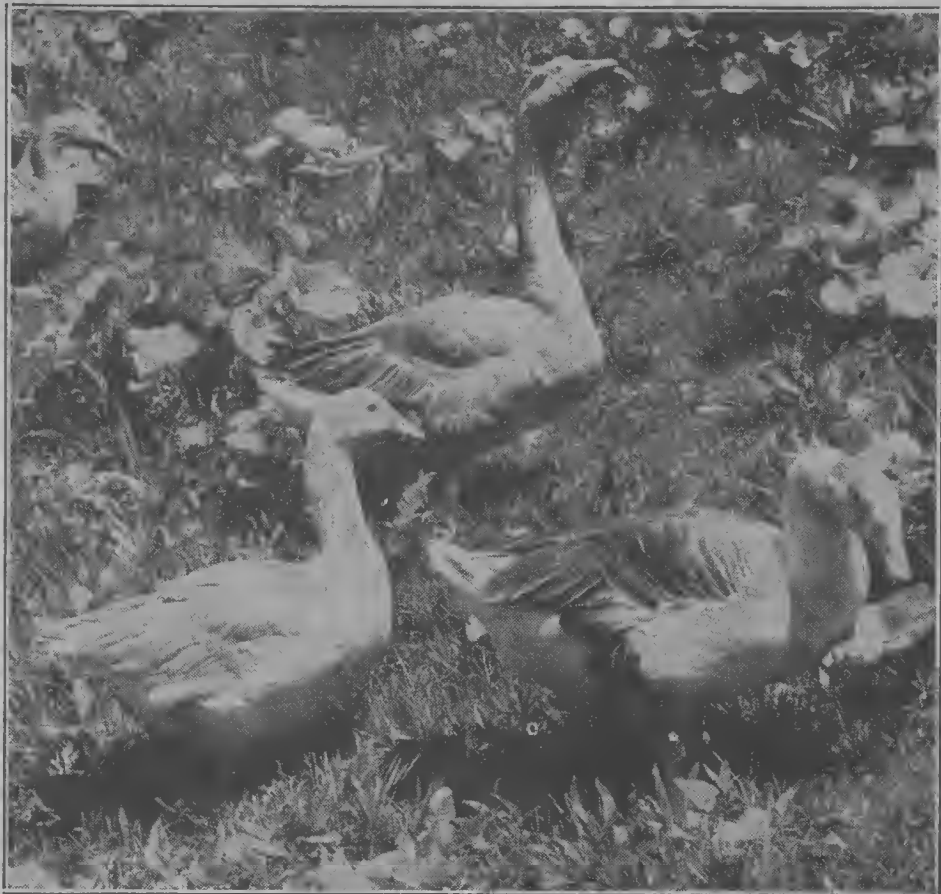
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POULTRY



Geese on pasture always make a pleasant sight.

Keep Culling The Non-Layers

*The laying pen is no place for a lazy bird.
Good feed is for those hens that want to lay*

CULLING the laying flock is a job for every day, not just once a year. Every time the alert poultryman enters the pen, his eye will be looking over the flock for birds that are taking it easy, those that are thin and lifeless, or are staying fat and lazy, instead of turning restless energy into heavy egg production.

Young stock can be selected on the basis of rate of growth and age at first egg. Slow-growing, late-maturing, stunted, and bare-backed pullets are the kind to send to market. They have no place in the laying pens. When Leghorns are six months old and birds of the heavier breeds are seven months old, they should be up to 50 per cent production.

Pullets with alert eyes and waxy red combs are the healthy, vigorous ones that are likely to go into the laying house and settle down to a winter of high production. They should have clean-cut, strong features, but should not show the coarseness that may mean a fat and lazy bird. A heavy producer will need plenty of body capacity to consume feed. She will need a long, broad back, with plenty of width extending well back toward the tail. The breast should be full and deep, and the deep body should extend well to the rear.

With birds like this in the laying pen, what should the poultryman expect? As they come to full production the skin of yellow-skinned breeds will gradually turn white. The yellow pigment first disappears from the ear lobes and eye rings, then from the beak, and, finally, it leaves the shanks. The poultryman who handles a few birds every day can see whether or not the birds are in good condition. If the bird at hand is a layer, the pelvic bones will be spread and the

vent will be moist and expanded. If the vent is small and dry and the skin is yellow, the bird is not laying.

Good birds will lay continuously for ten months, if they are well looked after. Those birds taking a winter "vacation" and forgetting to lay for two or three weeks, are the ones to cull out.

Culling the non-layers reduces the feed cost and leaves more money for profits. It protects the health of the flock by removing the inactive hens that are most likely to fall prey to disease organisms and parasites. A hen that is not laying has no right to a spot in the laying house. ✓

Fatten Birds For Market

THERE are at least five good reasons for fattening birds before sending them to market this fall, says D. C. Foster, poultry specialist, Manitoba Department of Agriculture. The body weight of birds will be increased and their quality and appearance will be improved. Fat will be added so the birds will cook more readily, and the muscles will be softer. Finally, the poultryman will make more money by fattening.

However, the birds must be in good flesh before going to the fattening pens or crates. Flesh is produced during the growing season, and is not likely to be produced by a few weeks of extra feed. If the birds are infested with lice, they should be dusted with dry sulphur, sodium fluoride, or some suitable insecticide before being put on heavy feed. Birds fattened in individual crates require more work, but will be less active and will gain weight rapidly.

4 reasons for the Double Barrel Shotgun's great popularity

Two Chokes — Two Shots

No other type of shotgun gives the split-second selection of two chokes, plus the instant command of two shots.

Top Dependability

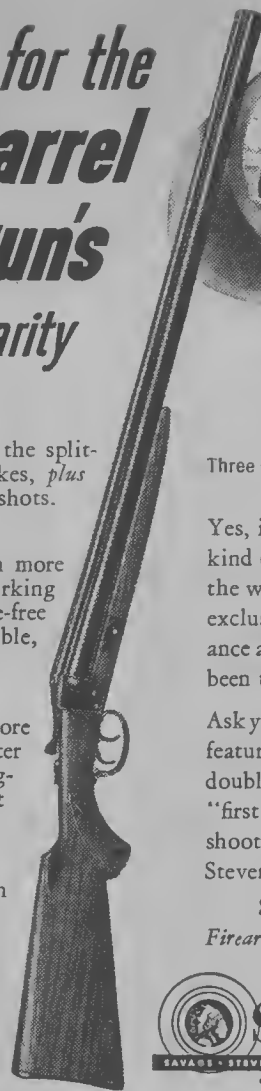
No other type of shotgun (with more than one shot) has so few working parts for a lifetime of trouble-free shooting — such quick, visible, safe loading and unloading.

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No other type of shotgun (with more than one shot) has its shorter over-all length for fast swinging and pointing — its perfect "feel" — its fine balance.

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No other type of shotgun can match its traditionally trim and graceful lines.



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POULTRY

A suitable crate is six feet long, 16 inches wide and 20 inches deep, with solid ends and partitions, and slatted sides. The partitions divide the crate into three sections each holding four birds. Vertical slats on the front allow the birds to feed properly.

Pens allowing about 25 birds two square feet of floor space each, are suitable, and these should be kept as dark as possible, to keep the birds quiet.

A suitable ration can be mixed by using 50 pounds of wheat and barley and 100 pounds of oats, or 100 pounds each of wheat, oats and barley, or 50 pounds of wheat and oats, and 100 pounds of barley. These grains should be ground finely, and one-half pound of salt added to each 100 pounds of mash.

The mash can be mixed with skim-milk or buttermilk, to make a batter that will pour easily. If milk is not available, seven pounds of meat meal is added to each 100 pounds of ground grain. Drinking water will not be needed when the birds are fed a wet mash.

Most people feed their birds, twice daily, all they will eat in 15 to 20 minutes. Then the troughs can be removed and cleaned out. Grit can be given to the birds every two or three days. Ten to fourteen days is long enough to crate-fatten poultry, while three weeks should do for the birds in pens. V

Keep Eggs Fresh

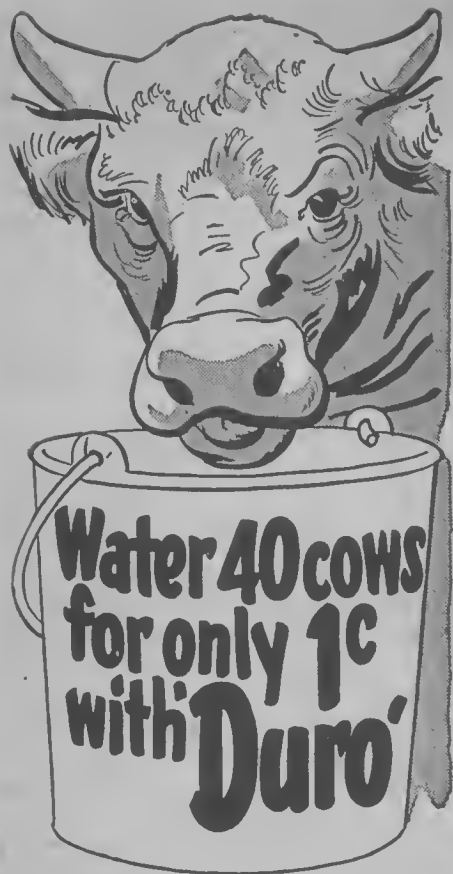
AN egg is never better than when it has just been laid. It is up to the poultryman to conserve this quality, so the consumer gets eggs at their very best. Since an egg is over two-thirds water, laying hens must have plenty of water. Less than full-feeding is not economical. Experiments at Cornell University, in which dry mash was fed during the winter only, resulted in an average of only 110 eggs per hen. When dry mash was fed the year through, the average was 172 eggs per hen.

Frequent gathering means fewer soiled eggs. It also makes it possible to get eggs at the right storage temperature earlier: Eggs need the same care that milk and cream require. They should be cooled at once in a spot free of odors, then packed small end down, in a cool case. Eggs will deteriorate as much in three days at 99° F. as they will in 65 days at 45° F. Behind the stove is not the place to store eggs. V

Specs For Hens

IN spite of the additional cost of providing hen specs to laying birds, some poultrymen believe they pay for themselves. They claim that they control feather pulling and cannibalism, and as well, have a quieting effect on the flock, making the birds easier to handle and eliminating "boss" hens.

These specs sometimes eliminate the necessity of debeaking, though often it is advisable to cut a little off the beak of chickens or turkeys that are in crowded quarters with nothing to keep them occupied. V



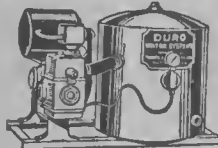
Running water on your farm can step up milk production by as much as 25%! And now the Duro Pumping System makes this possible at low cost: Duro pumps 1,000 gallons of water (enough for the average daily consumption of 40 cows) for just 1¢. And more productive farming is only part of what you'll gain with a Duro. Consider these additional improvements made possible by a Duro Pumping System:

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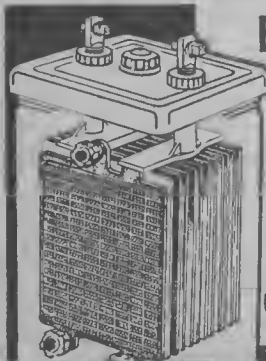
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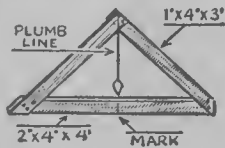
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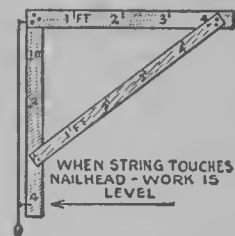
WORKSHOP

Ideas for Saving Time and Money

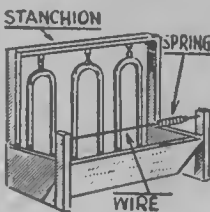
Useful Plumb Line. If you need a spirit level and do not have one handy you can make something that will do. The one illustrated consists of a four-foot piece of two by four, with a line drawn in the exact center. Two cross pieces of one by four three feet long are nailed in as shown, and a plumb line dropped from dead center.—A.P. ✓



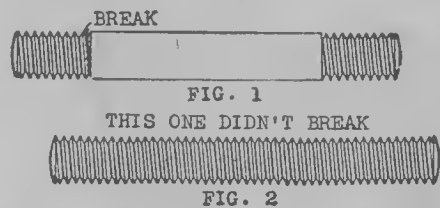
Another Level. I had to finish a job and had no spirit level or square. To be sure of true work I made a level with two one by four's 4½ feet long, and a five-foot diagonal. I fastened them together as shown and fastened a string on the edge from a nail projecting one inch. The lower nail also projects just one inch and in use the improvised tool is held so that the string just touches the head of the lower nail.—H.E.F. ✓



Stop Hay Wastage. To stop my cows from pushing hay out of the manger, I fasten a length of No. 9 wire about eight to ten inches above the edge of the manger, as shown. When the cows nose the hay up, the wire forces it back into the manger instead of letting it fall out into the alleyway.—I.W.D. ✓



Less Broken Bolts. Figure 1 shows a bolt that broke at the root of the last thread, as shown in the illustration. It broke because it was not sufficiently elastic, and it broke at the root of the last thread because that was the weak-



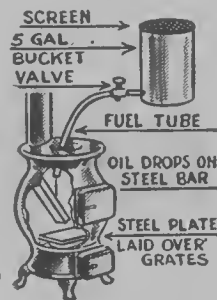
est point. If the entire bolt is threaded, the stretch is distributed over the roots of all the threads. The bolt is more elastic and is less likely to break.—W.F.S. ✓

Tail Holder. To prevent the milk cows from switching I put a heavy wire over the gutter about two feet above the cows' backs and string two or three light animal traps onto the wire before tightening it. The end of the cow's tail can be fastened in the jaws of the trap.—R.I.B. ✓



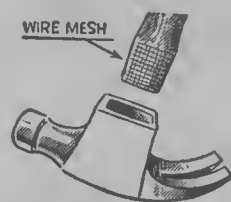
A simple idea can often reduce the labor necessary to do a job

Burning Used Oil. An old pot-bellied stove can be converted to burn used crankcase oil in the workshop. Bolt or weld a one by two-inch steel bar to the stove, as shown, so the oil from the feed drops near the top and runs down to the steel plate below. The steel plate should have clear-



ance for draft, and should be removable so the scale can be scraped off. The oil should be carefully filtered and great care should be exercised in the use of the stove to avoid fire danger.—I.W.D. ✓

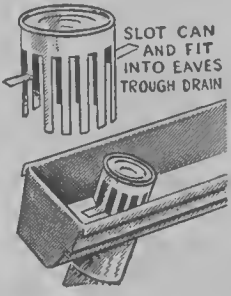
Hammer Head Tightened. The head of a hammer or other tool will be firmly tightened by wrapping the end of the hammer in a piece of screen and driving the head back on. The screen will bite into the wood and make a firm contact with the metal.—A.B., Sask. ✓



Anvil Rack. A good rack for holding anvil tools such as sledges, rivetting hammers, hot and cold cutters, and the like, can be made from a discarded manure fork. Cut off the shank and trim any unbroken tines to a length of nine inches. Bore ¼-inch holes for each tine to a depth of about three inches and drive the fork into place. This rack keeps hammers within easy reach of the anvil.—R.J.R. ✓



Strainer for Eaves. If leaves plug up your eave gutter slot a tin of the right size, as shown, and insert it into the upper end of the downspout. Such a strainer will last for many months; if painted it will last longer.—H.E.F. ✓



Removing Old Sections. When I have to remove old mower or binder sections I put the knife in the vise, and screw the vise up close, but not tight. A sharp crack with a hammer on the back of the sections will shear the rivets. This is much quicker than trying to cut them off with a cold chisel. ✓



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FARM YOUNG PEOPLE



Billy Small is building his own herd, and buying this Saskatchewan farm.

A Start In Farming

4-H club work aroused his interest, and now he is farming for himself

WHEN 25-year-old Billy Small, of Craven, Saskatchewan, goes out to judge a livestock show in the province, veteran showmen, parading the best from their herds, must sometimes wonder how he can be qualified to do the job while still so young. But complaints are few, when the show is over, for he has crowded a lot of livestock experience into the past few years. Now he is busy building his own herd of Shorthorns and will soon be leading them around the ring himself in front of critical judges.

His complete interest in livestock, he says, goes right back to the summer he was nine years old.

Alex Hall, who now grades beef bulls for the province's graded bull purchase policy, was leader of the swine club then, and brought an enthusiasm to the meetings which caught up many of the young club members. The highlight of every week for Bill became the Saturday morning trip to meetings at Lumsden, ten miles away. Mr. Hall took them to nearby farms, brought out swine and cattle and horses for them to judge, discussed the feeding and breeding of good livestock with them and awakened in young Billy Small an enthusiasm for livestock that has never waned.

Though the club died, Bill was soon a member of the Longlaketon calf club, one of the oldest in the province. He showed his first calf when 11 years old, and by 1945 had earned a place on the beef cattle judging team representing Saskatchewan in the Canada-wide competition at Guelph. Barry Andrew, from Regina, was his partner, and the team of stockmen placed third in the contest.

The trip did not end with the competition. The club members started out to see more of eastern Canada, a region they had heard and read about so frequently. They toured a packing plant at Toronto, inspected purebred herds on well-known farms nearby, saw the rich and picturesque Niagara fruit belt, and the huge industrial

plants at Hamilton. They proceeded to the nation's capital, Ottawa, and saw the beautiful parkways and canal there. Most of all, they were struck with the majestic appearance of the Parliament Buildings. From the Peace Tower they took in the thrilling view over the pulp-laden Ottawa River, and the rich forest land to the north and west, as well as the fertile dairy farms of the Ottawa Valley stretching southeast toward the St. Lawrence.

THE fascinating trip strengthened his interest in farming, and while many former club pals went to city jobs, he plunged into farming with more enthusiasm than ever. He won a scholarship offered by the Saskatchewan Agricultural Graduates' Association, that paid \$50 toward his course, and started at the School of Agriculture when the 1946 crop was in the bin. In the spring of 1948, with his diploma safely tucked away, he returned to his father's farm.

Three more years of farming saw him more intent than ever on farming for himself. First, however, he would look a little farther afield; and here again, his former years of club work paid off. His friend and former coach, Alex Hall, sent him to Edmonton to work with the famous Claude Gallingier Shorthorn herd at Goldbar farm. A pretty girl was left behind on this trip to Alberta, but she continued to occupy his mind. Marriage and greater responsibilities were within his grasp now, and he ferreted out every piece of information about breeding and caring for good cattle, that he could find. In the stable and on the show circuit, every day brought an opportunity to learn something more. When he left, a year later, his mind was made up to a life on the farm he would have to buy.

Now he is married and settled into a lifetime task of building up his farm and herd. Livestock and machinery from his parents' farm are helping out; and though the farm has still to be paid for, he is confident that this won't be drudgery.

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White Bread Again In Britain

*Britishers can have
white bread again*

WHITE bread was on sale in Britain on the 31st of August, for the first time in 12 years. During the war it was necessary for the British Ministry of Food to conserve wheat supplies and this was done largely by increasing the extraction rate, which meant using more of the wheat kernel for flour. At one time the extraction rate went as high as 90 per cent, and the flour even contained some barley and rye.

In the early days of the national loaf it was far less palatable and less appealing in color than it is today when the extraction rate is 82 per cent. Both millers and bakers have learned how to produce a better quality of national flour and bread, than they did in the earlier years.

Millers now may use any extraction rate they like, and may charge any price they like for the white bread. It must, however, compete with the national loaf, which is sold at controlled prices equivalent to 4½d for a 14-ounce loaf. It is reported that perhaps 12 to 14 per cent of the bread trade may be regained for white bread in the coming months.

The change-over will be more general with respect to cakes and biscuits. Last April the subsidy was transferred from flour to the loaf so that the miller can buy white flour for cakes at the same price as the flour he has been purchasing in recent years. The small baker can also offer a wider selection of special breads or special products. In the last ten years the number of bakeries in the U.K. has been reduced by one-third, their place being taken, as in Canada, by the large firms making mass-produced loaves.

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The bonds will be available in \$50, \$100, \$500, \$1,000 and \$5,000 denominations, with a limit of \$5,000 to any one individual. Canada Savings Bonds this year will be registered. Registered bonds, however, will be available only in denominations of \$500, \$1,000 and \$5,000. The interest on registered bonds will be paid annually by cheque.

It is possible to purchase Canada Savings Bonds through any bank, trust or loan company, or investment dealer in Canada.

Canada Savings Bonds may be cashed at any time at 100 cents on the dollar, plus interest at 3¾ per cent. All that is necessary to cash a Canada Savings Bond is to complete the redemption form on the bond, present it at your bank and receive the cash immediately.

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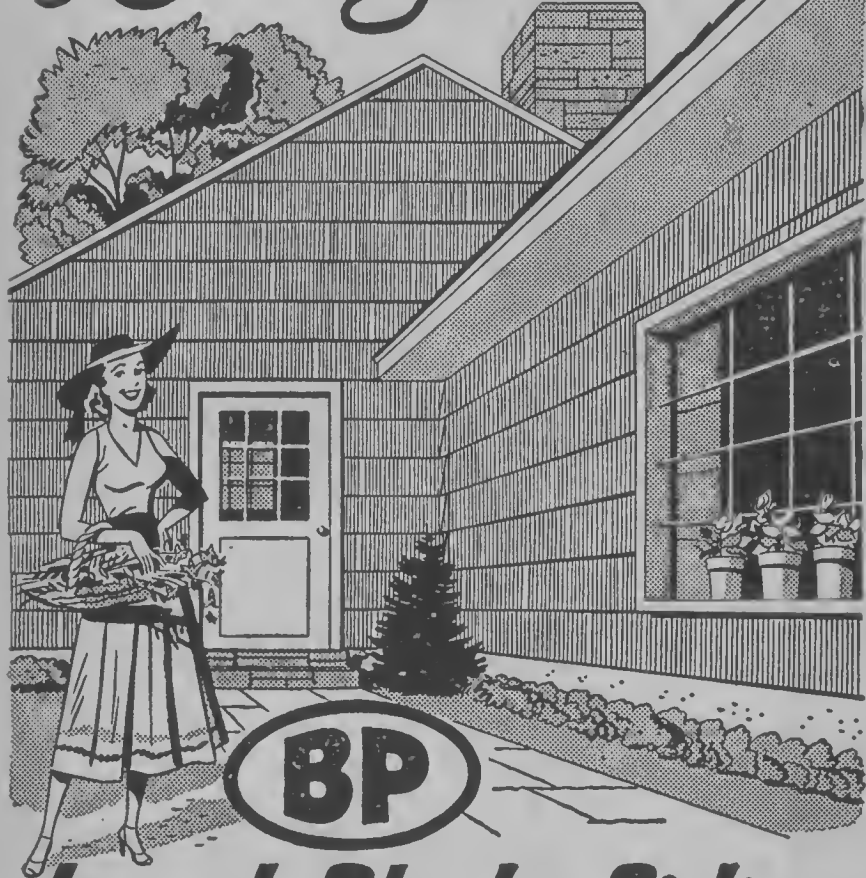
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MONTHLY

Wheat Board Distributes Grain Payments

The Canadian Wheat Board started payments to Western grain farmers this month which are expected to reach a total of approximately \$100 million. Some \$64 million of this amount will be accounted for by a 12 cents per bushel interim payment on all grades of wheat delivered to the Board during the 1952-53 crop year. The remaining \$36 million covers the close-out of the 1952-53 oats and barley pools.

Because of the substantial carry-over of wheat, last year's pool is unlikely to be closed out until we are well into the new year. The decision to make a 12-cent interim payment at this time apparently arose out of the fact that the Board has a sizable balance on hand.

This is the second interim payment to be made on the 1952-53 crop. The initial payment at the commencement of the crop year was set at \$1.40 per bushel but following an early interim payment of 20 cents, it was raised to \$1.60 per bushel. Producers have now received payments of \$1.72 per bushel for their wheat, basis No. 1 Northern, in store Fort William/Port Arthur. The final payment will be made following the close-out of the pool.

Final payments on the 1952-53 oats and barley pools will commence as soon as the interim payment on wheat has been completed.

In view of the low delivery quotas on the current year's crop, payments coming at this time will tend to assist producers with their harvesting expenses. With a large crop being harvested, it is inevitable that farmers will carry large stocks of grains on their farms until present stocks in elevators are cleared.

According to a statement by the Minister of Trade and Commerce, the Rt. Hon. C. D. Howe, a survey of available storage space and marketing possibilities during the fall months reveals that prairie producers may be able to deliver 275 million bushels of grain between August 1 and December 31, 1953. The actual figure will depend upon domestic and export demand during the next few months.

Meanwhile, increased activity has been reported in the sale of Canadian wheat during recent weeks. According to a Wheat Board announcement a considerable quantity has been sold to the United Kingdom, some of it on a cash basis and some at prices to be established later. In addition, sizable sales have been made to Germany and Japan under the terms of the International Wheat Agreement.

Canadian Wheat Board officials describe talk of a wheat glut in Canada as premature. The Board appears confident that sales during the 1953-54 crop year will be near normal. It should be remembered that most of our present difficulty arises out of the harvesting of a record and two near record crops in consecutive years. It is highly probable that crop yields will be normal or near normal, possibly in 1954, but at least in the near future. With sales at present levels and normal crop conditions, wheat carry-overs in this country could be of little consequence. In the event of a series

of poor years the present balance will be a valuable reserve to this country. V

Wheat Price Spreads Widen

Widening price spreads between the various grades of Canadian wheat during mid-September led to considerable speculation in both Canada and the United States. In some quarters, the action by the Canadian Wheat Board was interpreted as a reduction in the world selling price of Canadian wheat. The action was particularly noted in the United States because authorities there are fully aware that both buyers and sellers in the world market tend to wonder whether competitive price cutting will eventuate between Canada and the United States. Such speculation arises out of the fact that both countries have substantial carryovers this year and both are expecting above average crops again this season. Some importing countries might feel they would gain substantially if price cutting commenced.

However, government authorities in neither country want a price war and neither is likely to provoke price cutting under present circumstances. Canadian authorities denied that recent price movements represent any such attempt and certainly there has been no indication of such in the Wheat Board's policies.

What the Canadian Wheat Board did was to lower the price of wheat by approximately three to five cents on all grades *except on No. 1 Northern*. The slight downward movement in the price of No. 1 Northern was due to normal price fluctuations. In actual fact, the Board action amounted to a widening of price spreads rather than an over-all reduction in price. This was an adjustment which was unavoidable in the long run and one which was already due.

For a number of reasons, price spreads between grades have been relatively narrow in recent years. For one thing, all milling grades of wheat have been in great demand; for another, there has been less discrimination between grades when the buying and selling functions were both in government hands. In recent months, competition has been keener and there has been greater discernment with regard to grades. In the economic sense, too, each particular grade is in itself an independent commodity with price determined by both demand and supply. In other words, the spread between No. 1 Northern and the other grades is determined by the quantity available and the overseas demand for a particular grade. Under present circumstances the lower grades are in good supply while importers are requesting the top grades.

The price for any particular grade must be established at a level which the buyer is willing to pay, otherwise it will not be sold. If the buyer is willing to accept a lower grade it is only because the price differential is such that he can profit, or at least break even, by taking the lower grade.

It follows that price spreads should be looked upon more as a premium on the higher quality grades than as a discount on the lower grades.

The importer may be willing to take an inferior flour for a number of

COMMENTARY

reasons, one of them being a shortage of dollars. If the Canadian miller is to remain competitive in that particular market he must obtain at least, a grade equal to his competitors at a price which enables him to meet his competitor's price on the milled wheat. V

International Wheat Agreement

A number of knotty problems will face the International Wheat Council when it meets in Madrid this month. Although the International Wheat Agreement is fully functioning, new quotas for the exporters, which became necessary when the United Kingdom failed to join the pact, have not been established.

One difficult problem will be that of apportioning the "loss" of the United Kingdom allotment. During the previous Agreement, Canada and Australia were the major suppliers of the British market with United States participation relatively small. Officials in the latter country may feel that the withdrawal of the British should be reflected chiefly in the quotas of the two Commonwealth countries. Canada and Australia will want to maintain their quotas at as high a level as possible.

A further complication in the operations of the pact is the possibility that Australia may be unable to ratify the Agreement. The difficulty arises out of the failure of the Australian states to agree on the proposed wheat stabilization price plan. State legislatures must pass legislation continuing the Australian Wheat Board before the season's flow of wheat begins in November. As yet, the Wheat Board has authority to complete the handling of past crops only. The Commonwealth Minister of Commerce says he cannot submit the International Wheat Agreement for ratification unless the Australian Wheat Board remains to implement it.

From London, a grain correspondent reports that Britain may seek some limited form of admission to I.W.A. in the near future. According to the report, this would not cover imports for the United Kingdom but would apply to wheat imports of certain of the colonies.

The reasons for such a request for admission are said to be twofold. Firstly, with the seat of the International Wheat Council located in London, it is somewhat anomalous for Britain to remain outside the Agreement and she might possibly wish to see the Council remain in the United Kingdom. Secondly, it appears equally anomalous to exclude her from the meetings of the Council which she might wish to attend for purely reasons of information. V

Wheat Sales on Deferred Price Basis

A major problem to overseas importers and millers of wheat is adequate protection against the risk of price changes between the time the commitment is made for the wheat and delivery of the flour to the distributor. To the importer, and to British importers in particular since

the trade is now in private hands, this problem is very real.

No hedging facilities are available to the British importer at the present time. For technical reasons the Liverpool and London exchanges are of no value to them. Because of this fact, British firms have been reluctant to buy on the flat basis which exists in Canadian wheat transactions.

The Canadian Wheat Board, therefore, has had to meet the problem in some concrete way. As a result, officials of the Board have worked out a technique designed to carry the price risks on Canadian wheat while it is afloat from Canadian ports. In addition, it has taken steps to meet the needs of importers more directly with respect to grades. Previously, the Board held the option to supply any grade from No. 1 Northern down to No. 4 Northern irrespective of the importers' preference.

Under the new plan, importing firms may make commitments for specific quantities of specific grades on a price basis to be established at the option of the buyer on a deferred price basis. When sales are booked with the Board on a deferred price basis, the price in effect for the grades concerned on the day the buyer makes his commitment becomes the provisional price. The buyer then has the option of making his final booking for the specified quantities and grades on any subsequent day, within seven market days for St. Lawrence and Canadian Atlantic port shipments, or within 15 days after completion of loading to vessels from Canadian Pacific coast ports. His buying price then becomes the prevailing Wheat Board quotation on the day of his final commitment.

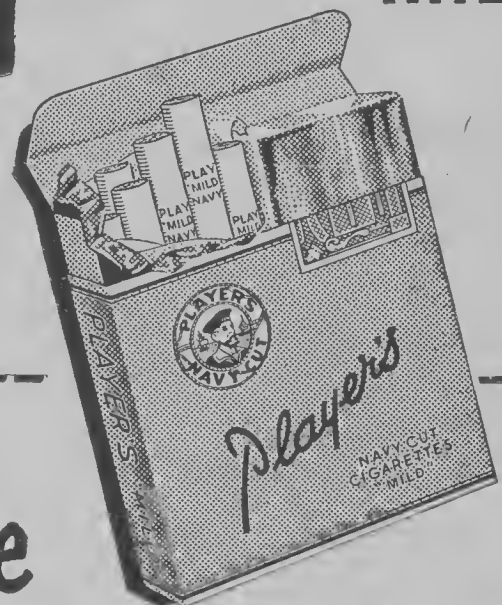
In accordance with Wheat Board instructions, an adjustment is then made between the Board and the shipper. If the final selling price, basis No. 1 Northern is less than the provisional price, the Board assumes liability for an immediate refund to the shipper. If final selling price exceeds provisional price, the shipper is required to pay the difference to the Board.

The provisional price policy applies to wheat sold under either the International Wheat Agreement or on a Class II price basis.

A somewhat similar pricing policy has been worked out for export sales of Canadian flour, again applicable to I.W.A. or Class II sales. In adapting the technique to flour sales the Board puts Canadian millers on a more equal footing with the British millers.

The provisional price policy is a partial solution to the problem but the British miller still must bear a great portion of the price risk before final delivery of the flour. This is a problem which did not arise so long as the government was buying the import requirements but the problem does arise in the private trade. There is no expectation that the British will buy extensively in the U.S. wheat markets but there are some technical advantages in doing so. In the United States too, the buyer can purchase on the futures market for later delivery. Since the situation is one which could affect our Canadian sales it is one of the Canadian Wheat Board's problems. V

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One of the most frequent questions asked outdoor writers is "What's the best all-round hunting rifle cartridge?"

The proper reply must be "There's no all-purpose cartridge any more than there's an all-purpose surgical tool".

If the hunter hopes to shoot pests, deer, moose, elk, grizzly, sheep and goat — if he likes to plink and is a match rifle shot — he must have several rifles or be content with moderate success. You can shoot gophers with your 30-06 but you'll do better with it mountain hunting. To illustrate: Two years ago my partner and I had designs on some bull elk and, after a long and dangerous stalk 9,000 feet high in the Rockies, we spotted three of the majestic harem bosses silhouetted against the snow more than 500 yards across a basin. We dared scramble no nearer for fear of spooking the harem of cows and calves only 100 yards below us in the frozen creek bottom.

The 30-06 I was using was stuffed with Canadian 180-grain ammo. I held my scope reticule three feet over the near bull's back, fired and saw him collapse into a patch of hemlock.

I took a half hour to punch snow across the basin to that bull and found a business-like hole, low through his ribs. He was lung-shot with the tip of his heart gone. The bullet had hung together and gone out the other side, but even at that tremendous range it had mushroomed enough to make a free-bleeding wound.

We said above there's no all-purpose cartridge, but if your rifle is a popular calibre like 30-30, 300 Savage, 30-06 or 303 British, it will do a pretty fair job on big game and "varmints" too, because you have a choice of two to four bullet types and weights.

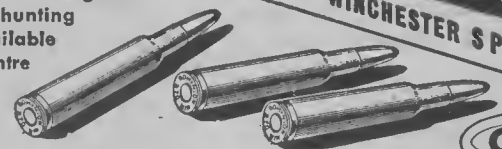
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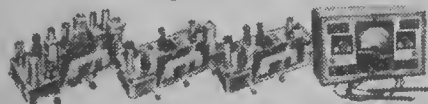
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The Wasted Harvest

Not all wild fruits are plentiful every year, but when they are it seems a pity to see them go to waste

by KERRY WOOD

ONCE again, a wild fruit crop has gone to waste throughout western Canada. A few farm folk interested in good eating have picked about five per cent of the berries growing near their homes, but the bulk of the delicious crop shrivelled and fell off the bending twigs. Birds such as robins, waxwings and grosbeaks will can their fill; chipmunks, squirrels, porcupines and the occasional bear will dine well for a few weeks. Yet most of the wild fruits will have gone to waste, as usual.

If you don't believe that wild berries can be plentiful enough to make a picking trip worthwhile, here are some facts. Wild raspberries, possessing a richer flavor tang than the best of domesticated varieties, were so plentiful in my home region last year that one group of eight pickers gathered 60 quarts in three hours' time. Saskatoons fruit heavily about every third year in most districts, but by jaunting around, you can always find an area where the berries are large and plump and plentiful. One 50-acre field near Ferintosh, Alberta, yielded over 1,000 quarts of processed saskatoon preserves to nearby farm families a year back, and they reported that even so, three times that much fruit went to waste in this one patch alone. High and low-bush cranberries are easily picked, especially the plump clusters of high-bush berries that yield handfuls of fruit, numbering as many as 40 berries to a cluster. The writer has gathered 30 pounds of such delicious jelly-berries in two hours' picking in a small woodland, where the berry clumps were rather widely scattered. What could you do in a good patch?

BLUEBERRIES and huckleberries receive the greatest attention from people, possibly because it is so much fun to make up a berrying party and go out into the poplar and jack-pine hills, where the blues thrive. You've heard of family parties picking up to 50 pounds of berries on one day's outing. Even so, most of the wild blueberries go to waste, though a few farmers of the blueberry belt

tell me that their cows do their very best to gather the crop and that their milk is highly flavored for a week or two, when the season is at its height.

Another good berry that goes to waste along every western roadway is the puckery chokecherry. The purple-black clusters of these berries are very easily stripped from the reddish twigs and everyone knows that choke-



Think of the delectable pies to come from these saskatoons!

cherry jelly is one of the finest spreads that can make bread taste like ambrosia. One lady gathered enough chokecherries to make 12 quarts of jelly from the roadside next her farm gate; and she spent only one and one-half hours at gathering the fruit.

"I only picked the fringe of the patch," she told me. "The rest shrivelled on the twigs and went to waste."

Perhaps this wastage of wild fruit doesn't concern you much. Perhaps most of these berry shrubs are destined by nature to put forth their lovely blossoms unseen by humans; to ripen their fruits amid the beautiful orchards of the hinterlands, and then drop their globules of sun-sugared goodness heedlessly upon the enriched earth, from which will spring other berry shrubs in the future.

But to some of us, it seems a shame that so much delicious food should be



These highbush cranberries, including some in the haversack, were the reward of twenty minutes of picking.

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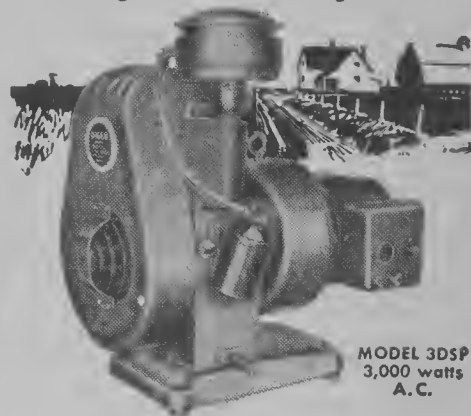
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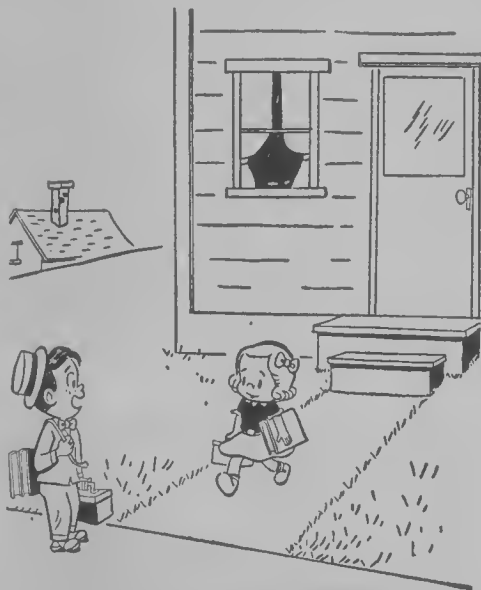
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Minneapolis 14, Minnesota

completely ignored, year after year, throughout the west. And this at a time when home canning is suffering a slump, because many families complain that they can't afford the high price of domestic fruits so appetizingly displayed in every store. Yet these same folk, who complain about high prices, will not go a-field to gather the free fruits of nature.

THE wild fruits offer us a wonderful chance of starting a new industry, with no takers as yet. We'll admit that the wildland crops of strawberries, dewberries, raspberries, black and red currants, pin cherries, and similar fruits are somewhat uncertain as croppers from year to year, in individual patches, but every season we still have marvelously large saskatoon, blueberry, cranberry and chokecherry crops in abundance, enough to guarantee a factory potential. Why don't we cash in on this free-for-the-taking product?

For example: Saskatoon pie is more delicious than any other kind you can now order in the best of restaurants; saskatoon preserve is a gastronomic delight, too. We know the worth of blueberries, and a domesticated type is now grown to supply canning factories, but cannot equal the wild berries in flavor. Christmas dinner would not be complete without cranberry sauce and jelly: are you aware of the fact that the wild cranberries of the west are even more delicious than the imported berries? And surely every westerner will agree that in the astringent chokecherry, we have a berry that produces one of the finest jellies ever known to mankind's drooling palate!

So here is a profitable industry going to waste, an industry that could provide restaurant tables and homes in far places with some of the good things peculiar to our own western Canada. Think of the fun of starting a wild berry cannery, too. We'd have truck-loads of happy pickers bound for the berry patches along the side roads, singing as they plucked the cranberry clusters, or stained their lips with the purple fruits of the saskatoon; and got good suntans on the edge of fields where the chokecherries were ripe. The tourist industry would benefit greatly—perhaps we'd even have carloads of tourists from far-away places, coming to visit our wonderful patches of wild fruits that now go to waste, year after year. ✓



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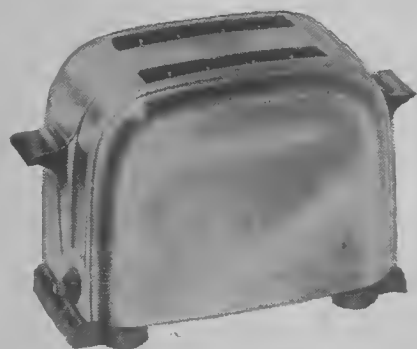


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Trapper Writes of The Far North

About hunting and trapping north and east from Waterways to Stony Rapids

CANADA is a vast and largely unknown country. One needs only a map, to see, for example, how near the international boundary Edmonton is and by contrast, how much greater the distance is from Edmonton to Fort Smith, on the northern boundary of Alberta. Beyond that again is an even greater distance to Coppermine, within the Arctic circle.

This vast northern settlement in Saskatchewan and Alberta, and beyond that in the Northwest Territories, has attracted adventurous spirits since the time of the first explorers and missionaries. Adventurers of many kinds have endured its rigors for the sake of living in the wide open spaces, or for the rewards of the trap line and gun, and, in very recent years, in search of minerals.

One of these was Erik Munsterhjelm, now a resident of Sudbury, Ontario, but in 1930, a recent immigrant from

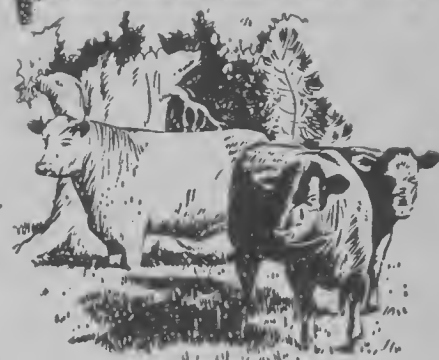
Ideas are like stars: you will not succeed in touching them with your hand, but like the seafaring men on the delude of waters, you choose them as your guides and following them, reach your destiny.—Carl Schurz.

Sweden, strong and eager for experience. In that year, he struck north from Edmonton with Karl, another Swede, slim, wiry, and an excellent shot, and for the next nine years lived in the north, hunting, trapping and prospecting. His recent book, *The Wind and the Caribou* (The Macmillan Company, Toronto, 234 pp. and map—\$3.50) is his ninth book, but the first to be published in English.

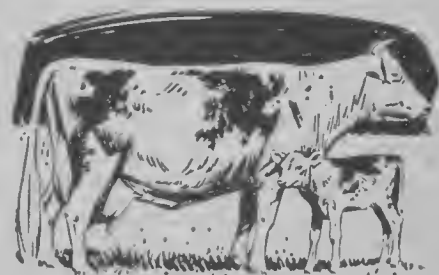
The partners went north to Waterways on "the Muskeg Flier" and there began to gather first-hand experience in the north. After building a boat and a 12-foot hunting canoe, and learning in the process that the guide books and manuals on woodcraft, which they had studied diligently, were utterly useless, they went on to McMurray, McKay, and Fort Chipewyan, then the largest settlement on Lake Athabaska, heading eventually for Stony Rapids, at the east end of Lake Athabaska.

One need look for no profound pronouncements about the developments of Canada's natural resources from this book. Nevertheless, it is vastly informative. It is also wise in its casual stories of day-to-day experiences about dogs, the northern Indians, the caribou, the northern wolves, the friendliness of people, the devices of the trapper, and the dangers and difficulties inherent in the nature of the country itself. These and many other matters of interest—for instance, "cabin fever," and the possibility of being badly injured, or without food several days' journey from the source of supply, or medical services—give character to *The Wind and the Caribou*, and are sufficient recommendation for any hunter or would-be hunter and trapper. Even to one without these aspirations, it is a book difficult to put down.—H.S.F.

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Routing Robber Rats

This silent invasion was finally repulsed, when Kindersley people discovered the cost of being indifferent to it

AN army of four-footed thieves crept into Saskatchewan's Kindersley district a few years ago. They found the grain-rich country entirely to taste, and settled down to fatten and raise enormous families on plunder from district farms. Normally shy and furtive thieves, their numbers soon grew until confidence sprang from their very numbers. Bold and fat, they allowed farmers from whom they stole, to see them running from field to field and from granary to granary. Some people had never seen these unwelcome guests before, and were curious as to their identity. Others began to notice the grain sinking in their bins and the heaps of uneaten hulls appear.

That was the time the rat invaders, bolder and fatter than ever, should have taken leave, as silently as they had come. But no, they liked it there. The bins were full and where else, they must have asked themselves, could the ravenous appetites of their multiplying families be satisfied so well?

They were unaware that the once-unwary owners were coming alive to the real proportion of the silent invasion. A meeting was already in progress and plans being laid which would bring district people to grips with these robbers. The Kindersley agricultural board, representing each of 11 municipalities, declared an all-out war on this growing army menace.

The opening salvo in the attack of this committee took the form of a National Film Board picture, "Get Rid of Rats," shown to farmers at 21 fall and winter meetings, and indicating just how the job could be done. Newspaper advertisements pointed out that a single pair of rats, if left unchecked, would multiply into 350 million rats in three years; that each rat eats \$2 worth of wheat every year, but that it actually costs \$20 to keep the

rat for a full 12 months. Two hundred and seventy-five pamphlets explaining how to "Kill the Rats" were distributed, and the whole municipality was up in arms against its costly visitors.

The rifles of sportsmen came out, and the careless animals were being killed two at a time with single shots. Traps were picking them off, and the Rural Municipality of Snipe Lake brought in two carloads of railway ties to raise granaries off the ground and leave the rats nowhere to nest, or to hide from cats and dogs. The program included the destruction of food supplies and a clean-up of junk piles. One grain farmer who had complained that someone was stealing his grain, was soon aware it was these four-legged robbers.

But the great weapon that dealt the final blow to the invaders in the spring of 1952, came from the science laboratories. It was a poison called warfarin, that the unwary thieves liked and ate until it killed them. One municipality distributed it free to any farmer who would use it. Others gave it out at cost, and the gluttonous beasts ate it without fear. At the town dump, rats ate 25 pounds of poison every night for ten nights, and then no more was taken. The rats were dead. A rancher bought a half-pound, put it out at night, and it was gone the next day. A grain elevator agent put three pounds of prepared warfarin in a half-cut-off tobacco tin and got rid of the rats. Another grain farmer, who a few days earlier, could go out any afternoon and shoot a couple of arrogant rats, could not find a single one.

The invasion was beaten, and last spring, the poison bait, carried by stores in the town, sat on the shelves waiting for rat-troubled farmers to come and get it. They did not come, for the concerted attack had cleaned up the district after its first invasion by rats. v

The Feathered Sheik

To handle a harem, one evidently must be a good provider and a strict disciplinarian

by MARIAN CHILD

MANY girls, knowing a strong, well-mannered and courteous male, would "hang on" to him. Not I. I like the male species to have those fine qualities, and maybe more; but when the male is a rooster, with a few distinctly vicious characteristics as well, I say you can have him.

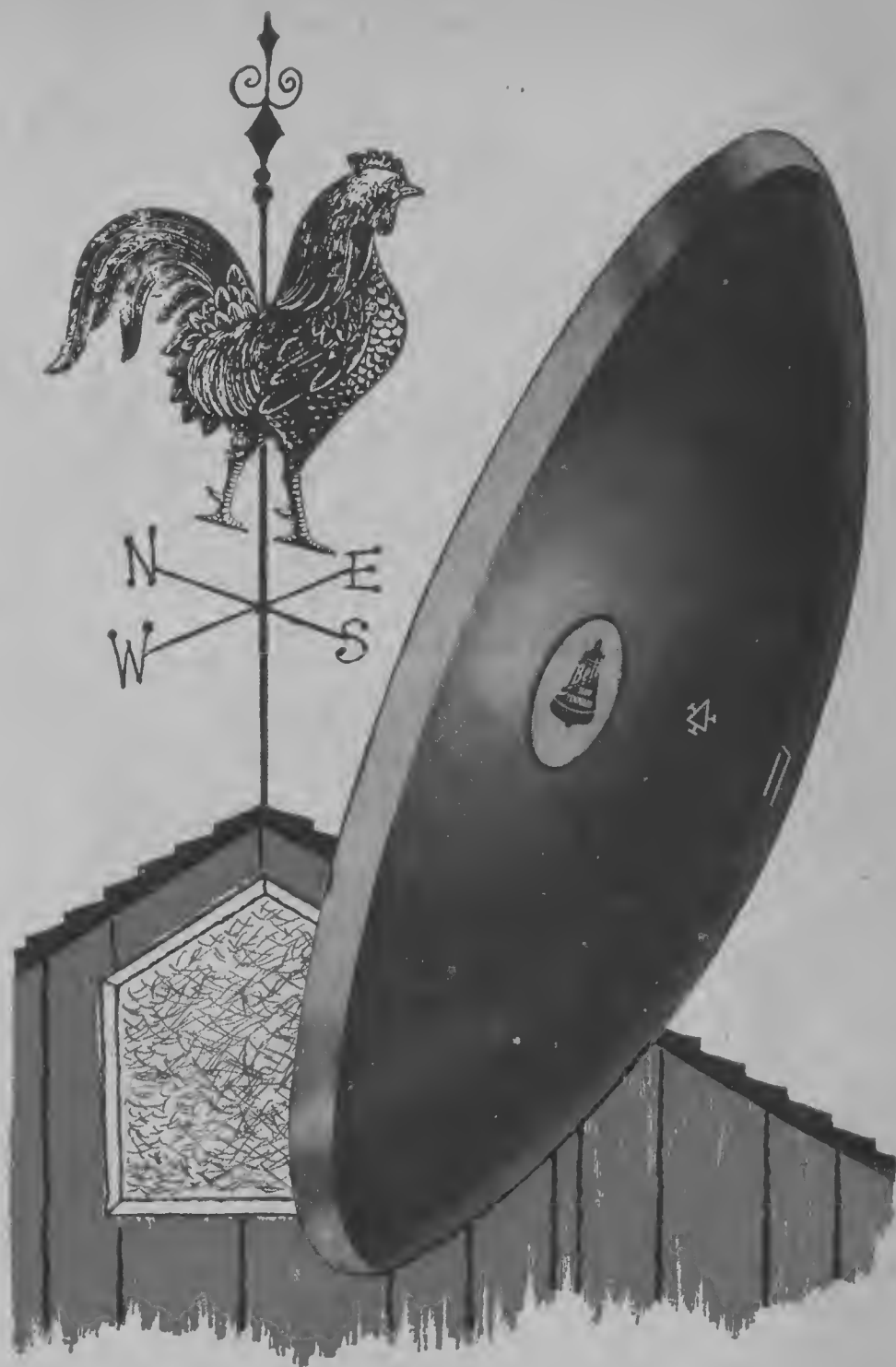
Reginald, the barnyard hero, is all I said, for he always stands back and allows the hens to eat first. He also sees they get any tid-bits that are thrown out. With full dignity he expands his chest and loudly calls any wanderers home in time for meals, and agitates his wings if they are a trifle slow.

To enable his feathered harem to have all that he thinks is their due, he and I often go to battle. Never

can I approach the barn with a bowl, or pail, without him believing it is for them. If I continue walking past him, he lunges at me, or else dodges from side to side to hinder or trip me, with all the agility of a first-rate boxer.

Should I attack with shouts, abuses and well hinted kicks, he then withdraws slyly, now viewing me sideways with a sinister twist to his head. I know that look, so I continue walking with one eye over my shoulder, keeping a watch on him and on the back of my legs—a vulnerable spot.


Once away from the henhouse I'm safe, but I'm still worried. If one rooster is almost too much for me, how will I deal with the 15 young ones when they reach maturity? The oven could be the solution. v



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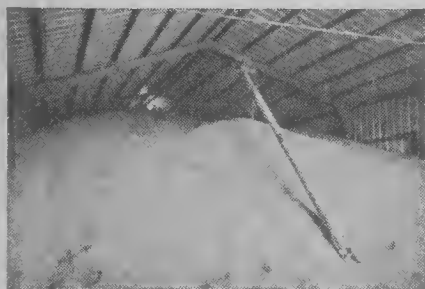
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Britain's Supply Of Bacon

*Britain will discuss the price of
bacon this month with Denmark*

FOR the five years ending with 1938 Denmark supplied 52.5 per cent of Britain's bacon imports, while 16 per cent came from Canada, 6.8 per cent from The Netherlands, 7.4 per cent from Eire, 6.3 per cent from Poland, and 11 per cent from other sources. During the war, all imported supplies came from North America, and by the end of the war Canada was supplying 79 per cent (in 1944, 700 million pounds).

In 1945, European countries got into the United Kingdom market and the scarcity of dollars kept down imports from North America. By 1950, British imports were 544.3 million pounds, or 30 per cent less than the 1934-38 average. Of this amount, Denmark supplied 59 per cent, Poland and China, 15 per cent each, and The Netherlands, 9 per cent. Later, Denmark's share rose to 64 per cent, Poland's to 19 per cent, and The Netherlands to 16.5 per cent.

This month Britain and Denmark will talk about bacon prices in connection with a two-year contract which was concluded in September, 1952. A get-together was held in June which lasted two days, but the meeting this month is expected to be far more difficult. The agreement has a clause which permits a ten per cent fluctuation either way in the price, which is now £252 and 10s per ton, f.o.b. The Ministry of Food wants a ten per cent price reduction, because it argues that grain prices are falling and bacon rationing may be abolished in Britain, which would probably lead to increased demands for imported bacon.

The Danes, on the other hand, want a ten per cent increase, arguing that if restrictions on consumption are abolished in Britain, a shortage will develop on the world bacon market. They argue also that New Zealand recently secured a bacon contract from Britain at a higher price than is being paid to Denmark; also, that Denmark is getting much higher prices from other countries, including the Soviet Union, than Britain is paying.

Denmark is also dissatisfied with the methods of government bacon distribution in the U.K., because it is not a good advertisement for Danish goods which, including butter and eggs, must be kept in cold storage until released under the rationing system. This tends to destroy the reputation which Danish farm products originally had for excellent quality.

The London Economist said recently that "as things are today Danish farmers have probably lost interest in concluding any more long-term agreements with Britain," and points out that Denmark is gradually shifting its export policy. It says the prewar trade policy was governed by the belief that agricultural exports should be restricted to refined animal products, but that many other products such as malt barley, pedigree seed, sugar and even pedigree cattle, can be exported profitably now.



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A Long Ago Hallowe'en

All's fair in love or war, they say: also that the best laid schemes o' mice and men gang aft a-gley

by JOHN R. ROSS

SIMON NEUSTOR liked pussy cats. He liked girls, too, especially my girl. As for me, I was careless about cats, and I didn't like Simon Neustor.

Simon Neustor was 20, tall and good-looking in a dark way. I always thought he was a smart aleck. Of course I was only a kid, just turned 19, and I suppose I wasn't without prejudice. Besides Simon had come from the city that spring, so we figured he was pretty green.

Ida Pitson was 17. She had merry blue eyes that got deep and dark when she grew serious. Even now, after all these years, I could speak for an hour about Ida's good points without telling you half of them—and I should know, I've lived a long time with her.

Ida's Ma was to give a Hallowe'en party on All Saints' Day, partly because Ida's Pa, big Jim Pitson, thought it would keep the young bucks (as he called us) from getting into devilment.

All the young folks in the district were to be at the Pitson party, including Simon Neustor. He worked at the Thompson farm a mile west of our place, so I told him to come over after chore-time and he could go to the party with me. Oh, sure, I was a good-hearted guy.

I had old Bess and the buggy. Bess was slow, but she was safe and dependable. Pa used to say to Ma: "Don't you worry about him, he's safe with Bess; you can't rattle her."

A full moon was sailing overhead. It was big and yellow and soft: it made me wish I could write poetry so that I could make up something about the moon, and Ida and me. I forgot about Simon Neustor at my side, till he broke the witching spell by asking for a match and offering me a cigarette.

"You're off the road," Simon said presently, "where you heading for anyway?"

"By ginger we're not on the road," I said, pretending to be surprised. "Well," I went on, "We'll just let Bess have her head for ten minutes and see where she takes us."

Before ten minutes were up we were on the edge of the frying pan, a big, wild hay meadow that flooded every spring, but was baked hard and dry in October, with stacks of hay out near its center.

"We're on the frying pan, ain't we?" Simon asked.

"Yes, this is a shortcut." I pointed with the willow whip. "The Pitson place is only a mile over yonder; we'll get on the road beyond the stacks."

Bess was plugging away and Simon was humming. "Oh my, the moon is on fire." That was another reason why I didn't like Simon Neustor; he could sing like a canary, and I didn't have a note of music in me.

Suddenly I said: "Whoa!" and Bess stopped.

"Look Simon!" I was all excited. "Three pussy cats."

The frying pan is a seventh heaven for skunks during the fall season. Being night feeders, they go there by the dozen to hunt snails in the low spots, as well as mice, which generally are plentiful there.

"Oh! I say," Simon climbed over the buggy wheel. "Look at yon black beauty." He reached over and took my coat off the back of the seat. "I'll throw your coat over him and we'll take him to the party. By jove, that'll be jolly—a black cat at a Hallowe'en party."

"Bring my coat back here, you darned fool!" I yelled. But Simon was after pussy and I couldn't stop him.

I never saw a skunk run from a man before, but that perverse brute ran from Simon. I was standing on the ground, with the lines in my hand. I had hoped to grab my coat from Simon and drive off, leaving him with a clear field and no favors. But Simon was now chasing a skunk toward me. It looked as big as an elephant. I slapped Bess with the lines, she seemed to think I was petting her.

"Giddup!" I screamed while I yanked the reins. She backed up instead. One hind wheel grazed the skunk's tail. The animal reacted to such treatment, in the way in which any skunk might be expected to react. I jumped, but not fast enough, nor far enough. I was struck below one knee.

Simon walked to the party. Before he left, he said he would tell Ida what had happened to me. He said, too, that he would give Ida a kiss for me. I hated Simon with a consuming hatred just then, but I had other matters of an urgent nature to look after.

I arrived home, and Pa made me park the buggy down in the creek. When I was putting Bess in her stall, I could hear Pa at the kitchen door laughing harder than I'd heard him laugh, since the time our collie dog ripped the seat from the peddler's pants.

When I went upstairs to bed, Ma said in a subdued voice:

"Take your trousers off, son, and leave them outside your door, I'll make your Pa tend to them."

I did as Ma told me. Pretty soon I heard Pa in the vicinity of my trousers. He wasn't laughing any more: he was gagging like a grampus. I quietly opened the door and peeked. Pa was striding away with my pants on the tines of a pitchfork. I went to bed and laughed myself to sleep.

It didn't seem so funny next morning though when I found that Pa had made a bonfire in the yard and had thrown my \$10 watch in it along with my offending garment.

The next time I saw Ida, she said: "We had a grand time at the Hallowe'en party, but what do you think that smartie Simon Neustor tried to do? He tried to kiss me. Can you imagine that!"

Just to show Ida that I understood and that I sympathized with her, I kissed her myself.

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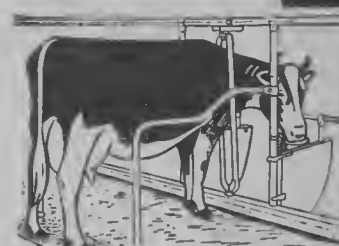
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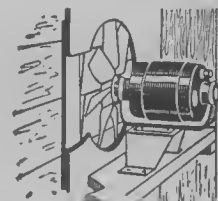
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IN THE NEWS...



A New Landmark



The latest addition to U.G.G.'s family of Country Elevators is the new 70,000-bushel unit at Killarney, Manitoba, where, on July 10th, a large crowd of interested visitors witnessed the opening ceremony. Ronald Chatham, a grandson of one of the original shareholders in the Killarney district, rolled the first load onto the scales, and the second load was owned by Lorne Shaver, also a grandson of one of the original shareholders . . . Thus, in the true U.G.G. tradition the third generation are today the new pioneers and loyal patrons of Canada's oldest Farmer-Co-operative.



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Study of Farm Grain Storage

Preliminary report on study begun in 1952 by the Department of Farm Management, University of Saskatchewan

LAST year, when it became apparent that a very large crop would be harvested, a study of farm grain storage was begun by the Department of Farm Management at the University of Saskatchewan. A survey was undertaken on approximately 320 farms in four dark-brown soil areas in central Saskatchewan. At that time, information was obtained from these farms on the farm business, the production and stocks of grain on hand, and the storage and handling facilities on the farms.

In the summer of 1953, further data were sought by visits to approximately half of the same farms. This time information was sought from which the costs of storing grain on farms, and the types and sizes of storage structures, could be determined. Directly related to the storage problem in years of big yields is the fact that in the Luseland-Salvador area the sample farms had yields in 1952 about 2½ times the average wheat yield for the previous 13 years within the municipality. In the Fortune-Sovereign area the sample farms had yields about 1½ times the 13-year average for the R.M. In the Blucher-Bradwell-Elstow area the sample farm yields were 1½ times the R.M. average, and in the Govan-Hatfield-Cymric area, the proportion was about double the average.

Three general types of storage were considered: permanent, temporary and emergency. Temporary storage was considered to be permanent buildings, or parts of buildings normally used, such as machine sheds, barn floors or henhouses. Emergency storage included storage constructed for temporary use, such as open bins made of lumber, snow-fence or woven wire. In this category, too, though considered separately, were protected field piles. In the Fortune-Sovereign area the average permanent storage per farm was 26.1 bushels per seeded acre, which compared with 15.8 bushels per seeded acre for the Blucher-Bradwell-Elstow area, which was the lowest, though there was only about a bushel per seeded acre difference between this area and the Govan-Hatfield-Cymric area, and again between this area and the Luseland-Salvador area. In each area, the average permanent storage space per seeded acre was greater than the average wheat yield for the corresponding rural municipality during the previous 13 years. In each area, however, as with most other factors, there was a wide difference between the yields on individual farms.

As to the most desirable amount of storage, the Department says that no single answer to this question can be provided. It does suggest, however, that "under the present policy of grain marketing and handling, farm permanent grain space should be related to average yield experience and crop acreage on the particular farm, as well as to the availability of temporary storage in the form of cattle barns, machine sheds or chicken houses, and to the preferences of the individual farmer in the matter of risking

periodical losses from emergency storage and investment in granaries."

Permanent storage space to handle a little more than an average crop may be the most satisfactory on many farms, it is suggested, which would be from 15 to 20 bushels per seeded acre in the dark-brown soil zone of Saskatchewan.

The cost of new granaries, averaged over the four areas was 19 cents per bushel capacity, but this involved only the cash expense and did not take into consideration the farm labor and the materials already on the farm. For granaries under 1,500 bushels the average cash outlay was 22.8 cents, while for those of 4,500 bushel capacity and over, the cost was 17.2 cents per bushel. The average capacity of these two groups was 1,110 bushels and 9,229 bushels per granary. It is pointed out, however, that the larger granaries, with some exception, were of more substantial construction and likely to last longer, and to require lower annual maintenance cost. Most of these larger granaries also were divided into bins of from 1,000 to 1,500 capacity. Likewise, with the larger elevators some labor was hired, which was included in the average cost figure. Also, a greater proportion of the materials required for the larger elevators had to be purchased.

Some data has been secured already with reference to the estimated physical losses of wheat as a percentage of the total amount stored under emergency conditions. There was again considerable variation between farms, but in the Luseland-Salvador area, where the largest quantity (77,835 bushels) was stored under protected field storages, the average loss was 3 per cent, as compared with a loss of 3.4 per cent in unprotected field piles. In the Govan-Hatfield-Cymric area protected piles or open bins experienced a loss of 2.5 per cent, but the unprotected field-pile loss was 8.4 per cent. These figures covered 42,425 bushels. In the Fortune-Sovereign area, where only 8,800 bushels were stored under protected but temporary storage, the loss was 0.6 per cent, whereas the loss in 10,900 bushels stored in unprotected field piles was 1.2 per cent.

A check was also made as to the estimated losses due to differing lengths of storage period of wheat either in protected field storage, or unprotected field piles. It is evident that the loss was not heavy up to March 31, but 52,660 bushels in storage until after April 1 to June 30, showed a 3.7 per cent loss on the protected field storage, and 6,200 bushels held for a similar length of time in unprotected field piles showed a 10.1 per cent.

Field piles located on high ground, says the report, either on native sod or a layer of straw, apparently suffered less than average losses. Those located on summerfallow suffered considerable bottom spoilage. Where moisture-proof paper had been laid on the ground, it tended to divert under the piles, the water from rain and melted snow.

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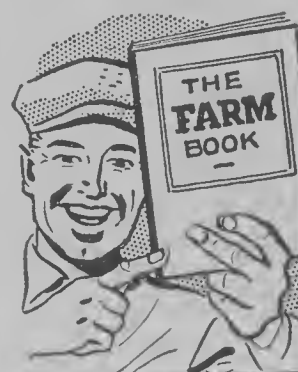
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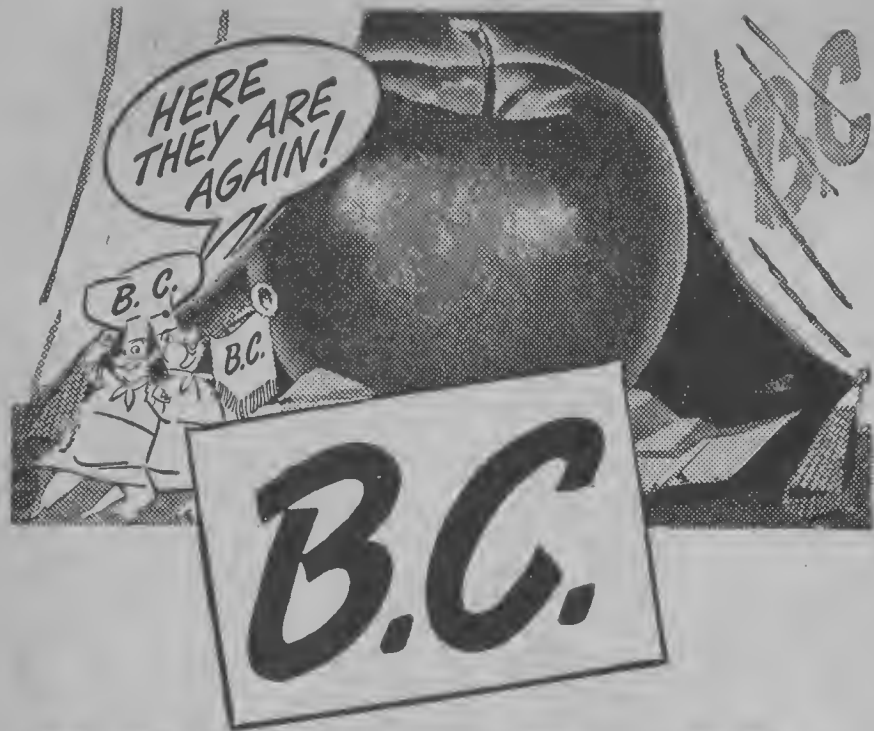
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Canada's Biggest Is The World's Largest

2,717,000 people saw the 75th Canadian National Exhibition at Toronto this year

by J. ALBERT HAND

WESTERNERS who have never spent at least a few hours at the 14-day Canadian National Exhibition, which is held at Toronto every year in late August and early September, cannot get a true perspective of what it means to Canada. Incorporated in 1879, it was not long until it was recognized as the largest annual exhibition in the world.

In acreage it is bigger than a half-section in prairie terms. It has a frontage of a mile and a half on Lake Ontario and actually comprises 350 acres. The under-cover floor area of the Coliseum, with adjoining Horse Palace and Livestock Pavilion, is 24½ acres. An arena in the Coliseum has seats for 12,000, while another huge, fireproof structure, the grandstand, has seating for 25,000. Further west is a modern band shell, in front of which are chairs for several thousand more. In addition to a central administration building, there are several buildings for special uses and the Ontario government has quarters of its own. There are 14 miles of paved streets, and miniature street cars provide regular transportation across the area.

With this somewhat sketchy description of the facilities available for education and entertainment, readers will be able to understand, perhaps, why this magnet can draw millions of people from year to year. The 1952 attendance was 2,717,000. The weatherman did not co-operate this year with the result that attendance fell by 97,500. Eight days of extreme heat at the start, and wind and rain for the closing days, upset all well-laid plans. Nevertheless, the attendance ran well over 200,000 on each of four days, with a high of 287,000. The average for the 14 days was about 186,400—each day a whole cityful of folks.

On opening day not a few wanted to see and hear Field Marshall Vis-

count Montgomery, the hero of Alamein, who thrilled the crowds at the official opening ceremony as he did the English-speaking world during the war years—but on a different key. Many came to share in the pleasure of Jack Arthur's second attempt to satisfy them with a grandstand spectacle that is close to 100 per cent Canadian. Others were anxious to hear the famous Welsh Guards band, and other music that prevailed throughout the day. Of course, there were those who just wanted to be with the throng.

Throughout the years the public seems to have grasped the fact that the management is continually striving to emphasize the many phases of Canadian life, customs and production and, at the same time, to set up a glorified show-window through which other nations can present their wares. Britain this year reached a high standard in letting the public know that she is by no means decadent. Several other countries also had creditable exhibits—enough to give discerning visitors a sort of world tour thrill at low cost.

In reality, however, the livestock and other farm products in competition for prize awards can safely be rated as the chief crowd magnet. Naturally, most of the entries came from the province of Ontario, but the western provinces and the Maritimes were represented in some classes. In this connection it is worthy of note that Alberta and Manitoba took the lion's share of prizes in butter, and that Saskatchewan was prominent in eggs and honey. Then, too, a Clydesdale exhibitor from West Virginia took three out of four grand championship ribbons. Western farmers might advertise their provinces and pick up some prize money by sending seeds, grain and sheaf entries.

Those who casually remark "same old stuff, there's nothing new," easily could have found something new at



[Turofsky photo]

Prize-winning cheese, eggs, and butter at the C.N.E., Toronto. Alberta and Manitoba took most top butter prizes. Saskatchewan did well with eggs and honey.

How do they drill an oil well, Dad?



"You've seen me drill a hole in a piece of iron. Drilling down through rock is somewhat the same but the drill points have to be extremely hard and tough. The cutting parts of the drill are made of nickel alloy steel because it lasts longer and cuts quicker than most other materials."



"Do they drill very deep?"

"Yes, sometimes oil wells are drilled two miles deep. Pieces of pipe are joined to each other and the rock bit is screwed on the bottom end. To keep this great length of pipe from breaking it is sometimes made of nickel alloy steel which is strong and tough. It is also less subject to the corroding influence of salt, sulphur and chlorides often found in oil wells."



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Niagara Falls, Ont. "It's wonderful how quickly Noxzema helps heal blemishes, and makes my dry skin look softer, smoother, fresher," says Beverly Doty.



Montreal, Que. I'm delighted with Noxzema's routine," says Jocelyn Olivier. "It feels so refreshing and leaves my dry skin so much softer and smoother."



Look lovelier in 10 days with SKIN SPECIALIST'S FACIAL *or your money back!*

New beauty care helps skin look fresher, smoother, lovelier—and helps keep it that way!

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Letters from women all over Canada praise Noxzema's quick help for rough, dry skin; for embarrassing blemishes; and for the dull, lifeless, half-clean look of many so-called normal complexions.

Like to help your skin look lovelier? Then start right now, tonight. Watch

for quick improvement in your skin!

1 Cleanse thoroughly. Apply Noxzema, then wring out a cloth in warm water and wash your face as if using soap. See how fresh your skin looks—no dry, drawn feeling!

2 Night cream. Smooth on Noxzema so that its softening, soothing ingredients can help your skin look smoother, lovelier. Always pat a bit extra over any blemishes to help heal them—fast! You will see a big improvement as you go on using Noxzema faithfully. *It's greaseless. No smeary pillow!*

3 Make-up base. 'Cream-wash' again in the morning, then apply Noxzema as your long-lasting powder base.

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Limited time offer! You get the big 6 oz. jar for only 98¢—and you save one third compared to the smaller size. Buy Noxzema today—at drug or cosmetic counters.

NOXZEMA *skin cream*

the 1953 C.N.E. Even the midway, which has had a sameness through the past 50 years, had new attractions and thrills. Those whose interests lie in farming were delighted to see a respectable farm machinery exhibit—the first since the breaking out of hostilities in 1939. Almost everything in it was new. Monstrous power-driven equipment has replaced the ordinary implements of the horse age. New also was the judging of dairy cattle classes on ice. It happened that ice had been laid for a "Holiday on Ice" show, which conflicted with the judging as to date. This was overcome by laying a tarpaulin and sprinkling tan-bark. It was new, too, to find a new Canadian walk away with the championship ribbons in the Holstein classes. This was the achievement of Hector I. Astengo of Peel county, who has large interests in Shorthorns and Holsteins in Argentina. In 1949 he managed to get a share of the prizes at C.N.E., London and the Royal. His winnings have increased from year to year since. He won all the championship ribbons in female classes at the C.N.E. this year against stern competition and also took 11 firsts, 7 seconds, and 7 thirds.

This year's show included 1,089 entries in the four dairy breeds, and 655 horses (602 last year). Growers

of field crops, fruit and vegetables excelled themselves in the showing of high quality products. Special improvement was found in the horticultural building and in the new setting for fruit and vegetables. Poultry exhibits reached a total of over 5,200. It required over 90 judges to make the awards in livestock and other farm products.

Interviewed after the show had closed, Hiram E. McCallum, general manager of the C.N.E., and former mayor of Toronto, made it clear that agriculture has been, and is, the most important part of the show. "Our belief in this," he said, "is proven by the fact that we increased the prize-money by ten per cent in 1952 and again by the same amount this year. The total available in livestock and farm products now stands at more than \$125,000. For the first time since 1939 we have the farm implement display back on the grounds. It was very interesting this year with all sorts of modern power equipment and I hope we can have something well worth seeing each year in the future. It is our hope that a new pure foods building will be ready for the 1954 exhibition and we have under consideration an accelerated building program for other accommodation." V

Southern Albertans Are Good Neighbors

With modern machinery they can combine to do a great big good deed in less than a day

by MARY B. PHARIS

ON the farm of William Wood, two miles south of the hamlet of Spring Coulee, a procession of tractors—five caterpillar, and six rubber-wheeled—moved into the field early one July morning. Each tractor pulled a tiller-disk, and by three o'clock that afternoon, 200 acres of summerfallow had been blackened. Bill and Geneva, his wife, have every reason to know that there were, not one, but more than a dozen, good Samaritans abroad that day.

At seeding time, William Wood was in the University Hospital, at Edmonton, for a difficult and painful operation. His son Neil came from his work in Placerville, California, and seeded the 230 acres of land which were ready for crop, but July 9 found the summerfallowing still undone.

Edward Lane, a young friend of the family, instigated the good-neighbor

project. Others manning the tractors were Merrit Potter, Garth Petersen, Bill Venachuk, Alma Bishop, Jess Sherman, Leo Gumroudt, Wayne Ripley, Glen Robinson (for R. S. Thompson), and Morris Curliss (for Ken Long). Frank Brown and Edward Lane, Sr., were present as observers.

Murray Chapman, Imperial Oil dealer, was on hand to keep the tractors filled, and paid for the gas used. Mrs. Jean Smith and Alice Malmberg, the daughter, helped to cook and serve a bounteous dinner to the workers.

With health much improved, Bill and one helper have cultivated the summerfallow, and are preparing for a good harvest. The Woods have farmed in the district since 1915, and the wonderful help given them they will never forget. Similar help was given them several years ago, when Bill suffered a severe hand injury. V



Good neighbors of William Wood at work on his summerfallow during his illness.

Alberta Master Farm Families 1953



The Howard Hymas family of Rosebud. Left to right are: Allison, 21-year-old University of Manitoba student; Mr. and Mrs. Hymas, and Robert, 19.



Three generations of Lohrs figure in the Master Farm Family Awards for 1953. Pictured in front of Mr. and Mrs. Lohr's home are, from left to right: Mr. Lester Lohr, his granddaughter, Evelyn, Mrs. Lohr, Lloyd Lohr, Lorraine and Lloyd's wife, Dorothy. The Lohrs' "Sprucevale Home" is 11 miles out of Erskine.



Careful ploughing and good farming has led to a Master Farm Family Award for the Emil Kvarnbergs of Buford, Alberta. Seated from left to right are: Emil Kvarnberg, Mrs. Kvarnberg, their granddaughter Beverly and daughter-in-law Ruby. Standing are: LeRoy, who has his own farm at Warburg, Verua, and Ernest, who works with his father.



Master Farm Family for the Northern Alberta Division is the Ernest Belzil family of the St. Paul district. Standing left to right are: Euclid, George, Aline (Mrs. J. O'Driscoll), Fernand and Mae. Seated left to right: Cecile (Mrs. Roy Mack-syniuk), Mrs. Belzil, Mr. Belzil, and Blanche (Mrs. Nick Gady).

(See also page 57)

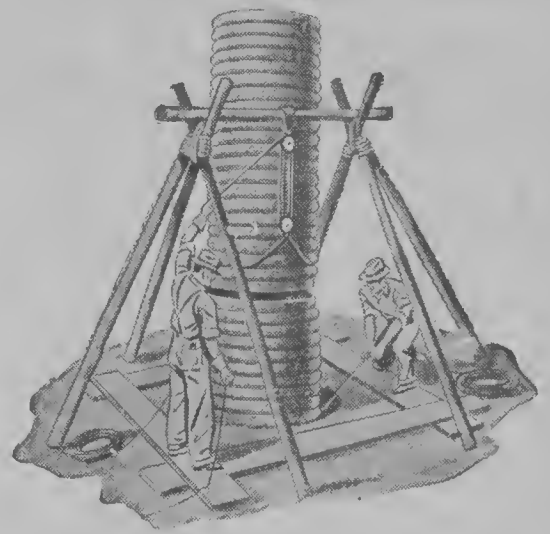
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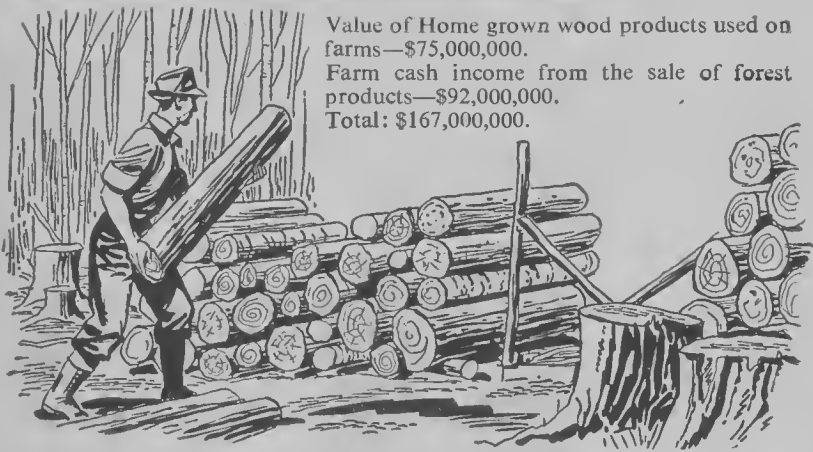
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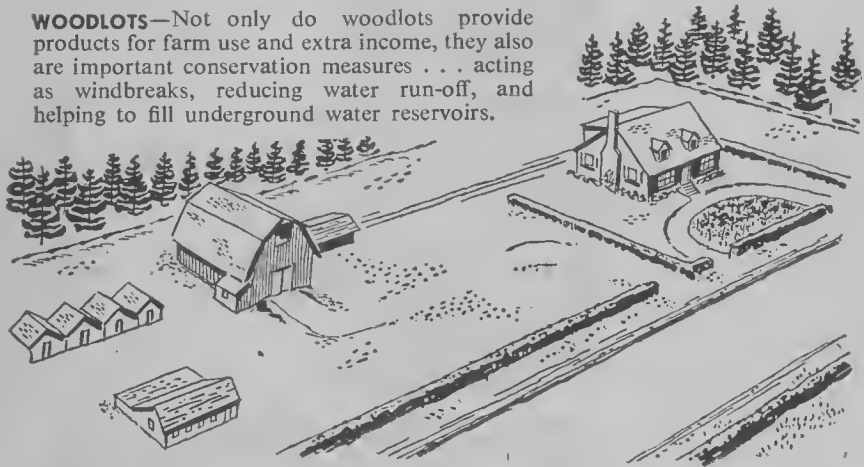


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between the brand you put on your livestock and the brand an advertiser puts on his product. A livestock brand signifies ownership only. A product brand signifies not only ownership but quality as well. The reputation of the manufacturer will suffer if his branded product fails to give the consumer satisfaction. As a general rule you can buy a branded product with confidence.

Drought Test for U.S. Dust Bowl

Continued from page 10

planting grain sorghums that can use all moisture with superior efficiency; and by soil fixing procedures on areas too dry to sow to any crop. In the large areas of New Mexico and Colorado and Oklahoma usually planted to broom-corn, drought caused an almost complete crop failure this year—but no dust blew.

Eccentric rains finally hit these areas, recently, and the farmers were out right away, replanting the fields of broom-corn that had withered easily. They did not replant because they expected a crop, but because they wanted good root systems in the soil over winter to hold it from blowing, should drought continue. They had that much faith in soil-saving processes. They planted sorghums, where seed was available. Where it was not they planted broom-corn, though it was too late to make a crop; but they were satisfied they would profit in the long run by keeping the soil stable until rain enough came to carry a crop through to a profitable harvest.

TEXAS is a very large state, where talk tends to be proportionate. Her experience with drought, in a comparatively small area during the past two years, has put her situation into public print, in a way that inferred a second Dust Bowl. This is far from the facts. Texas blew where she had not protected her soil, but elsewhere in the Dust Bowl, which has been eccentrically spotted with drought and flood, good crops and bad, no dust has blown, because the soil is tied down.

The South Plains in Texas are being educated by a primer, sent to city and farm folks, alike. It reads: "You can't conserve rain, if none falls. You can't grow cover crops without moisture. You can't stubble-mulch, unless you can grow crops for stubble. You can't put organic matter into the soil, if drought kills the crop before, or just after, it sprouts. You can't grow even grass on barren, drought-struck land. You can't grow a windbreak during drought to protect crop fields. What is the answer? Start all these things during wet years."

With a slogan, "For Land's Sake, Cover Up," business men from drought-hit Texas sponsor this publicity crusade; which also includes a drive against single-crop farming. A total of 53 counties in western Texas and Oklahoma have had enough rain recently to spark a planting campaign. Sorghums mostly. Eighty-six counties, at this writing, are still without enough rain to sow seed. This section, like its neighboring section in Old Mexico, is semi-arid, and normally has scant rainfall.

In the Dust Bowl droughts of 1933-36, dust blew from South Dakota, through the length of the country and to the Texas coast, during a general drought over this area that lasted 24½ months. Back in 1916-18 Texas had a drought lasting 27 months and in 1887 one that lasted 23 months. The government bought 8,000,000 cattle from the 1,203 drought-stricken counties of the High Plains in 1933-36, at an average of \$13.47 per

head. Present *acute* drought conditions in one-tenth the area—largely in Texas—again forced sale of starving cattle, but by the hundreds, not millions. Texas has been slowest of all the old Dust Bowl states to accept soil-saving practices; and only about half its dust-area farms are protected. The government stations report that they consider their work in soil conservation only about half done, and that achieved only by patient preaching and demonstrating, principally during the last ten years. Where soil-saving has been adopted, pastures have been improved 62 per cent, and crop yields as much as 90 per cent, with an average of 70 per cent. L. P. Merrill, regional director of soil conservation, operating out of Fort Worth, Texas, says: "We have enough demonstration ranches going so that everyone willing can come and see for himself that wind erosion is preventable and that ranching can be made much easier, as well as much safer and more profitable. It will take time to get all of the dust out of the air on a windy day, but that day will come. And my prediction is that it is not far off."

SO the battle of the black blizzard, far from being merely dramatic history, is a proved experiment, by which all arid and semi-arid sections of the world may well profit. In fact, demonstrators have been sought by other countries to come and show exactly how soil-saving is done. Today, all over the Dust Bowl, except in very limited areas, better crops are being grown on scant rainfall with soil-saving practices, than have been grown in good rainfall years without these methods of protecting soil.

In rainy years the old Dust Bowl looks green and thriving when crossing it by plane. It would be a surprising scene, indeed, could Washington Irving witness it, for he wrote in the early 1800's that the entire inland plateau was a barren, sterile place, that would never be fit for human habitation. It is thickly pocked now with storage ponds and reservoirs, often of many miles in length; and is criss-crossed with shelterbelts of trees, 15 or more rows deep, that make havens of farmyards and highways, and intercept the force of the southerlies. The soil men are beginning to say that, in the long run, these trees and ponds are bound to beget a more humid atmosphere and hence more rainfall, and finally, more productivity. From the air the terrain looks odd indeed: the old rectangular-plowed fields are almost all gone, and in their place are the curved terraces and contour-plowed, strip-cropped farms, fitting the hills and hollows like a garment.

While this is being written (August, 1953), general rains have fallen over much of the Dust Bowl and quick-growing crops are being planted for forage and sorghum grains. A month ago, at the peak of the drought, farmers were selling cattle because of fear that they could not feed them through the cold months. Now the native grass pastures are green and thrifty, young sorghums are sprouting, the price of milk has gone down three cents per quart. All but a small Texas area of the Dust Bowl is safe, owing to the soil-saving farmers, who keep their soil tied down, whether or not there is rain enough for a crop. V

Ten Thousand Hungry Turkeys

Continued from page 13

His answer to the thieving coyote has been "Don't let it get started." Someone always sleeps out near the turkey range, with a good dog. Any inquisitive or hungry coyote is put to flight long before it ventures close enough to frighten the birds or capture a turkey dinner.

In spite of so many turkeys, it has always been a family farm, and now that son Murray has graduated from the University of Alberta, he is up to his knees in turkeys too. He will be the next owner of the farm, and is not one to sit back and call the smoothly operating business "good enough." He has goals of his own, which will try his skill. Birds in the breeding flock must be constantly improved. The all-important factor, hatchability, has never been good enough with turkeys. And he can't forget a year ago when they nearly left the flock out on range one night too many. It was late in the fall, but the weather looked fine, and the birds were content out on range. Father and son hesitated, then decided to bring the birds, nearly ready for market, into the pens.

Next morning when they awoke, a blizzard was shaking their windows. The outdoor shelters and roosts were buried in drifting snow. If the birds had been outside, the summer's work and the tons of feed would have been gone. The birds would all have perished outside.

Such are the risks with turkeys, but the Browns have matched their wits with these hazards and come out on top. The shelterbelts and hedges around the yard, and the comfortable house testify that while they have been raising turkeys, they have built a way of life on the farm. When Ben Brown reminisces aloud now, he finishes by observing: "After the years we have spent here, I would hate to see the farm go out of the family." V

Old Wheat Milled

RECENTLY, according to The Northwestern Miller, a sample of Power wheat, a selection from Red Fife, which was grown west of Grand Forks in North Dakota in 1888, and kept since then in a tightly stoppered glass bottle, was milled and the flour baked. At the same time, three samples of a similar variety grown in the experimental station plots at Fargo in 1949, 1950 and 1951, were compared with it.

It is reported that the old wheat kernels were hard and brittle, the germ often lost and discolored. The wheat would not germinate but had about two per cent more protein content. It was low in yield of long patent flour and had twice as much low-grade flour as any of the other samples.

The flour had a high ash, but produced a very poor loaf, the volume being about half of that from new flours; and was unfit for human consumption. V

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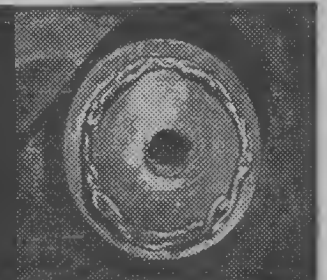
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The Pleasures of Pandemonium

Continued from page 12

who took one look around and bore down on any trousered craft in sight! I hid in the corners, pulled faces and said disagreeable things, all of no avail. On arrival at the hall I had already decided that my first line of defence would be ably commanded by General Retreat. After thirty seconds of action I was ready for capitulation, and one minute later, unconditional surrender. To this very day I strive vainly to forget each separate act while among those candidates for the mad-house. I recall that I side-stepped the first rush very neatly, but in doing so I met the next issue face to face and was knocked flying, only to ricochet violently from a dozen solid buttocks, as the wind went out of me with a desperate swooshing sound. That I only sustained minor contusions on that calamitous night is still, to me, a matter of mystery. Thank goodness I had possessed the foresight to wear my shoes with the steel toecaps.

DURING those wild gyrations all my life flashed before me, and I became a mariner on an uncharted sea, looking only for a soft place to land. Not a moment of respite did they grant me, until the musicians finally stopped from sheer exhaustion. I stood there swaying like a fly with the DDT's. Blindly I staggered to the checkroom, tipped the attendant a dollar for my coat—in my state I would have bought the thing outright had the lady suggested it—then, fumbling out my car keys, I unlocked the door, flung myself on the back seat, and there died a thousand deaths each time someone walked by.

Even now, days and weeks later, I still shudder when I hear a voice that sounds like my raucous friend at the microphone. If someone should step up behind me and shout, "swing your partners," I could still defy the law of gravity in an unpremeditated take-off.

You're perfectly right! There must be some easier way of having fun, say fighting Spanish bulls, or challenging Marciano. No amount of tears or persuasion will ever entice me to go near a square dance. Never again will I sap my energies and become a victim of those violent gymnastics. In fact, next week I am putting this ad in the local paper: "WILL SWAP WIFE OF THIRTY, IN GOOD CONDITION, FOR ONE TWICE THAT AGE, WITH ARTHRITIS." V



HERE WE SEE DROOP N. WITT, OUT FOR A NAP,
HIS CIGARETTE BURNING AWAY IN HIS LAP.
'TWOULDA BEEN MORE EXCITING IF THE PICTURE HAD BEEN
OF HOW DROOPY ACTED WHEN IT BURNED TO THE SKIN.

BETH WILCOXSON.

Royal Canadian Air Force

A Parent's School Daze

Continued from page 14

We knew and teacher knew, that it had better be good. It always was, too. Oh, sure, we forgot our lines and stumbled in the drills, but who cared? We were on the stage, faces shining, clothes immaculate. Even if we had been unable to remember a single line, our parents would have been proud of us. All too soon the strains of the last school chorus died away. Suddenly a hush fell upon the whole gathering.

The chairman of the school board was on the stage, in front of us. Teacher, rosy and dishevelled, from too much behind-the-scenes activity, emerged and stood beside him. Our audience roared, stamped and applauded, and our hearts were full to bursting, as we took our final curtain call.

The chairman would then raise his hand for silence, smile at the teacher, and present her with the "gift" of the evening. Nearly always it was a thing



"I found them wandering along the road. Thought they might be yours."

of beauty such as a gold-embossed dresser set, or elaborate jewellery. Just once, I remember, it was a large, grey-enamel roasting pan. Poor teacher! I felt let down and I'm sure she did, too.

Teacher would look her prettiest and thank the chairman. The chairman would sit down. Teacher would then call her prize pupil of the year to the front, and in his, or her, grasping hand place the coveted gift of the year—teacher's prize, and the one we all dared to strive for.

Now all members of the school board joined the chairman, and with teacher's help, all the gifts and bags of candy, oranges, apples and nuts were distributed. Once in a while Santa came, but not always. We all knew, especially the little ones, that the real Santa lived at the North Pole and was much too busy to attend our Christmas concert.

The winter season was now in full swing, and our school year was over perhaps until April, when the roads would be free of snow, and the air clear of frost. Teacher would be back. Our teachers always came back and eventually married the local lads.

OUR school was truly a summer affair. Through the hot months of July and August we trudged to school and back. As soon as the frost was out of the ground, perhaps May 24th, we gleefully shed our fleece-lined underwear and woolen socks for the last time, and barefooted it to school. Those first few days were painfully sweet. Our feet were young and tender

and the soft coolness of the earth was often painfully merged with sharp-cutting edges of stones.

Before long, our feet were hardened and calloused and black as the earth they trod. The slivery, oiled school floor seldom made a dent in them, and in this barefoot respect we were all one. Teacher never complained, perhaps because bare feet are quiet feet.

I think I've learned a lesson here. Whether barefoot, or wearing nylons, a youngster feels the need of being one with his group. Although, as a parent, I sorrowfully admit a financial difference.

Once again some lines learned in a long past era return to bother me:

*"The old order changeth
Yielding place to new
And God fulfills himself in many ways
Lest one good custom should corrupt
the world."*

SUDDENLY I am sick and tired of reminiscing. I am glad, all of a sudden, that my children have the privilege of attending school in this day and age. I am glad my daughter and her classmates are obtaining superior home economics training. I am glad my sons are being taught good sportsmanship. I am glad my children expect a lot from life.

Once again I find myself, as in days of yore, letting my mind wander. Once again I hear my teacher's admonition "please keep to the point and answer the question properly."

The question—"What is this business called school?"

In the first place I have been wrong. School is not a business—nor should it be. It is a place of learning.

Why do we, as parents, send our children to school?

Perhaps the first and primitive reason is lack of time and skill to teach them ourselves. Perhaps the second is that Satan finds mischief for idle hands to do.

Why do we demand qualified teachers, experts in their field?

Perhaps because we feel an inferiority in ourselves—an inability to think clearly. Above all, I want my children to be able to think clearly. I want my children to enjoy their school days. I want the teachers to be instrumental in providing the best knowledge available—to teach my children in such a manner that they will have an ever-increasing thirst for knowledge.

I want them taught tolerance and understanding and the art of good citizenship.

I am not too concerned about the outward or inward appearance of my children's halls of learning, providing they are bright and clean. Walls can neither speak nor teach.

By precept and example I want them taught. Suddenly I am glad our educators are working toward that end.

The door bangs.

"Say, Mom, did Dad buy my new boots? These sneakers sure are awful."

"Say, Mom, these nylons are ruined. Can I get a new pair?"

"Say, Mom, teacher says I can have a new binder."

My mind lets go a thousand things—like dates of wars and deaths of kings.

Once again I am a school parent, battling for my rights and liberty. V

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Could We Have Grown Higher Protein Wheat This Year?

Continued from page 9

The wheat from the five replicates of each treatment was then bulked and milled. The flour produced was baked into bread.

The five fertilizer treatments were as follows: (1) No fertilizer; (2) 60 pounds of fertilizer in the drill at seeding; (3) 120 pounds of fertilizer on the surface of the soil at seeding; (4) 60 pounds of fertilizer in the drill at seeding, plus 60 pounds on the surface at the early shot-blade stage; and (5) 120 pounds of fertilizer on the surface at the early shot-blade stage.

The years 1936 and 1937 were both dry until after wheat in this area was well headed. There were no appreciable effects, on either yield or quality, from the late application of fertilizer. Applications at the time of seeding increased yields by two or three bushels per acre, but all yields were low, none of the non-legume plots giving over ten bushels per acre.

In 1938 and 1939 weather conditions were ideal, after the fertilizer was applied at the shot-blade stage. There was sufficient rain to make the fertilizer readily available to the crop, but not enough to wash it away. The average results are given in the table below.

The results show a number of things quite plainly.

1. The commonly used rate of 60 pounds of fertilizer at the time of seeding increased the yield of wheat on both series of plots, but nearly twice as much after clover, as after wheat.

2. Late applications of fertilizer did not increase the yields appreciably where fertilizer had also been used at seeding, but increased them somewhat where fertilizer had not been used earlier.

3. Late applications of fertilizer tended to increase the protein content, but only at the heavy rate was the increase definite. The increase, however, could not possibly justify the quantity of fertilizer used.

4. Low protein wheat produces small loaves of bread, when baked by a standard procedure. It can be seen that the size of the loaf—a good measure of quality—was increased appreciably only by the heavy, late application of fertilizer.

5. By far the most striking result was the superior yield and quality of the wheat grown on land that had previously grown grass and clover. The clover is the important part of the mixture, in influencing both yield and

quality of the wheat crop, because the clover effectively adds nitrogen to the soil. All legumes give the same type of results.

HERE then is an excellent example showing that fertility had a very important effect in determining the protein content of wheat, just as the Missouri work showed. Furthermore, the results fit perfectly the conditions suggested in the report already referred to. The residues of legume stubble and roots are rich in nitrogen, but not all of the nitrogen is available to growing plants at one time. In fact, early in the season there may be relatively small amounts of nitrogen available under such conditions. The use of fertilizer takes care of the plant's need for a good supply early in its life. As the season progresses, however, the legume residue gradually decomposes, setting nitrogen free for the use of the growing wheat plant. Thus, when the wheat reaches the shot-blade stage, the legume residue provides "additional nitrogen in generous quantities" and results in higher protein content or higher yield.

This question of increased yield is very important, because in the Missouri results *high protein content was accompanied by decreased yield*. This is almost always so under fixed fertility conditions, and the Missouri studies used a constant amount of fertilizer, but at different times. This is why we get high protein crops in dry years and low protein crops in wet ones. The important thing in our experimental plots was that *decomposing legume sod produced a condition of maintained fertility*, so we find that high yield was not accompanied by a serious decrease in protein content. In fact, under grey soil conditions in much of western and northern Alberta, legume breaking produces wheat, usually of higher yield and invariably of better quality, than does comparable virgin soil, fallow, or soil that has grown grain repeatedly.

A few words of warning must be given here. These yield results will be obtained only where, and in years when, moisture conditions are good. In dry years anywhere, and in localities that are usually dry, the legume residue decomposes very slowly: consequently, not much extra nitrogen is made available, but protein content will be relatively high. Furthermore, in areas where natural fertility is greater, such as on the black soils at Edmonton, results are likely to be much less striking, because nitrogen is not nearly so deficient as on the grey soils. It is quite certain that, except on naturally infertile soils, it is not practical to try to raise the protein content of our wheat crop much, by cultural practices. Even on these



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...and, Betty if it hadn't been for that policy I'd still be working instead of out walking on a glorious day like this! Of course the Mutual's low cost was a big help."



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Fertilizer Treatment	Yield, bus. per acre		Protein, per cent		Loaf size, cc.	
	After wheat	After grass and clover	After wheat	After grass and clover	After wheat	After grass and clover
1. None	10.8	15.8	10.7	13.6	540	661
2. 60 lbs. at seeding*	15.2	23.4	10.7	12.4	560	677
3. 120 lbs. at seeding**	15.6	24.4	11.1	13.0	566	694
4. 60 lbs. at seeding*, 60 lbs. later**	16.0	24.7	11.4	13.2	565	718
5. 120 lbs. later**	13.2	19.3	12.2	14.2	612	804

*Fertilizer placed in the drill rows.

**Fertilizer applied on the surface.

poorer soils, fertilizer is not a practical solution to the problem of low protein wheat. On the other hand, if all wheat in these areas were grown on legume breaking, we would have far fewer bushels of poor quality. A systematic rotation including legumes, such as that followed at Breton by the Department of Soils of the University of Alberta, would go even further in eliminating low protein wheat.

Despite all that farmers in western Canada can do, however, we will have low-protein years like 1927 and 1942, and high-protein years like 1936 and 1941. In many parts of western Can-

ada, conditions have been ideal in 1953 for producing low protein wheat. It is doubtful if most farmers can do much about this, because in areas of generally good fertility, the protein content will be largely determined by the amount and seasonal distribution of rainfall. In areas of lower fertility, however, farmers have a definite responsibility to do everything they can to improve the protein content—and therefore the quality—of our most important crop.

(Note: Dr. A. G. McCalla is dean of the Faculty of Agriculture at the University of Alberta.—ed.)

The Marquis of Aberdeen's Ranch

Money was no handicap when Guisachen Ranch was established near Kelowna

by P. W. LUCE

THE first property owned in western Canada by a governor-general of Canada is about two miles southeast of Kelowna, in British Columbia. It is known as the Guisachen Ranch, and the house was built to be the western home of the Marquis of Aberdeen in the early nineties.

The place has long since fallen from its high estate. It is now a small ranch, which is partly used for general farming, and partly for the raising of horses and cattle.

The Earl and Lady Aberdeen were ambitious when they bought this three-quarter section during their term of office, but they were a little in advance of the times. They started with a 16-acre orchard, long before markets were developed for the fruits; and most of the first trees had the bark stripped off by deer. An expensive fence had to be put up.

Coutts Marjoribanks, a brother of Lady Aberdeen, was the gentleman supervisor of the place. His intentions were good, but his experience was slight. He experimented disastrously with hops, which do very well in other parts of British Columbia. He tried raising berries and other small fruits, and was disappointed. His

various other crops were hardly outstanding.

The supervisor, and the Aberdeens, were really more interested in bird and game hunting, than in farming. The governor-general and his lady usually managed to move from Ottawa to the Okanagan in the shooting season, coming down the lake by boat. The railway had not yet got into that part of the country, and most of the travelling had to be done by slow horse stage.

Money was no handicap when Guisachen Ranch was being developed. An imposing L-shaped building was erected, with wide verandahs, from which the spreading hills of the Okanagan Valley are visible in all their glory. The dining room and the sitting rooms are spacious, and the ceilings are lofty, but there is not an inch of space-saving in the house.

The Earl of Aberdeen retained possession of Guisachen until his term as governor-general expired in July, 1908. Then, convinced that he would never improve his fortune in the Okanagan, he sold the 480 acres and the fine house to the father of G. D. "Paddy" Cameron, who now raises fine cattle and horses on the place. V



The Frank Jackson Master Farm Family of Keg River Post, Alberta. Left to right (front row) are: Frank Jackson; three grandsons, Donnie, 6, Bobbie, 4, and Ronnie, 7; Mrs. Jackson, holding another grandson, Leslie, aged 8 months; (back row): Louis Jackson and his wife, June, parents of the grandsons; John, 18; John Vos, and his wife Ann, 21-year-old daughter of the Jacksons.



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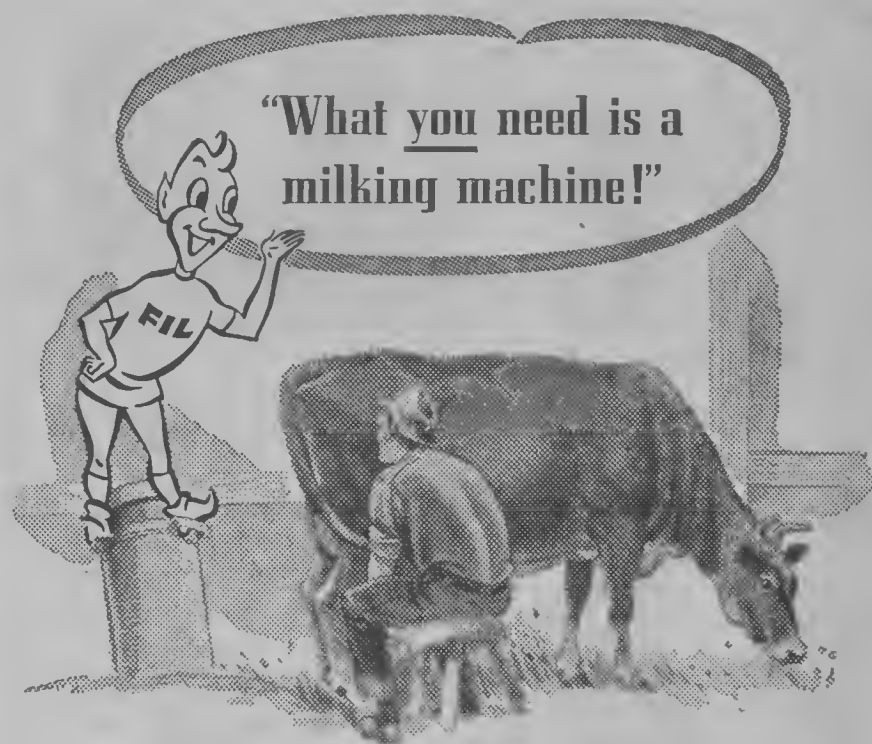
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Nature Girl

Continued from page 8

But I didn't. I just swallowed an aspirin and lay down.

"My gosh!" she said, "he's sitting on the fire escape."

"Who?"

"The man with the beard."

"For heaven's sake, will you ask him if he has to clackety-clack all night and all day too?"

Jenny leaned farther out the window. "Say, friend—"

The clacking stopped and a deep voice answered, "Aho down there."

Jenny went on sweetly. "My friend inside has a bad headache. Could you make a little less noise?"

"Be delighted to; but I can't afford a silent typewriter 'til I finish my great novel." The clacking went on.

My head was splitting by this time and I knew I couldn't wait that long. "Tell him he can use mine."

"My friend has a silent typewriter she says you can use," called Jenny. "You'd be doing her a favor."

"O.K. Toss it up." I heard the Bearded One say. The clacking went on.

"I'll take it up," Jenny offered.

"Thanks, honey," I said.

SHE picked up the case and started to climb out the window onto our fire escape. I heard the deep voice of the Bearded One again.

"Does your friend want to come up too and have a drink of good red wine?"

I walked to the window then and poked my head out. Sure enough, he was sitting on his fire escape with a typewriter in his lap and a red flask in his hand. "No," I said to him.

I looked at Jenny and said to her in a low voice, "I don't think you'd better go up. This man is entirely too carefree."

The Bearded One must have heard

me, for he said, "What could be more proper than to sit in the spring sunshine and have a friendly glass of wine?" I think he was laughing at me.

"Besides," I said, "it isn't good for your stomach at nine o'clock in the morning."

"Have some cheese then." He waved a piece of the golden stuff.

Jenny laughed and started to climb up the ladder, but I shook my head and retired to my couch.

After a time, Jenny came back. She told me that his name was John Thoreau and that he was a gentleman, even if he did go longshoring sometimes to make ends meet. And he, too, wanted to live in a cabin in the wilderness.

Jenny got out my vacuum cleaner then, and started to clean house for Pete's and my insurance salesman. Pete and I were going to be married in a couple of months and he wanted his insurance to be in order. He was going to meet the salesman at my apartment after work the next day, and we were going to go over a new policy together.

The salesman came early. Jenny was there too: she'd just come home from school. As we were sitting there, we heard a drunken voice singing outside, and I felt rather embarrassed for living in such a rundown district. George Marker—the insurance salesman—may have known it, for he glanced around our bright living room and said, "Nice place you have here."

It's a human failing to warm to praise, and I warmed to Mr. Marker's comment like a cat that purrs too loud and indiscreetly by the fire.

"It is comfortable," I said. "The curtains and upholstery are Jenny's work. She did it out of flour sacks, believe it or not. She's got natural talent."

"You women are resourceful," he said, taking new notice of Jenny.

The drunken voice was louder outside now.

"Of course," I said, "this district could be a little better, but there's all sorts of friendly people here, in spite of what it seems like."

"Yes," said Mr. Marker, his eyes twinkling.

It sounded like the man outside was singing "Three-see, Three-see, Three-see; dammit I can't find Three-see."

"We don't get very much of this sort of thing," Jenny explained.

"That's a strange song," said Mr. Marker.

"Maybe it's a new popular tune," I said. "Have you heard it before?"

"I don't have time to keep up on things like that," said Mr. Marker.

"Neither do I," said Jenny.

"Don't you?" said George Marker. I could tell he was about to say something else to keep Jenny talking, for it was obvious—in a well-bred way, of course—that he liked to hear Jenny talk. The singing stopped outside our door, and there was a loud knocking.

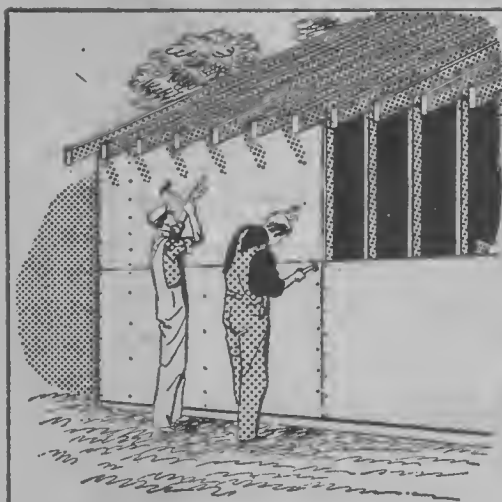
"Just a minute," I said. "Don't break the door down."

I opened the door and the fellow said, "Oh, hi babel!"

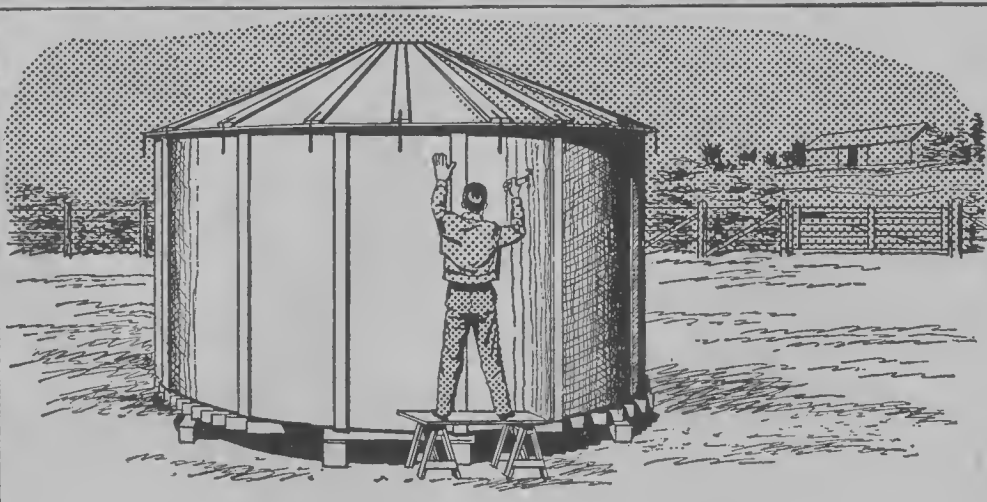
I guess I stood there with my mouth open, because he looked past me to George Marker and said, "Dear Old Jack."

Look what people are doing with

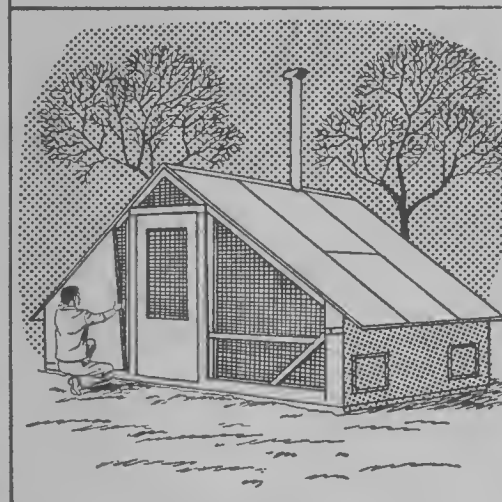
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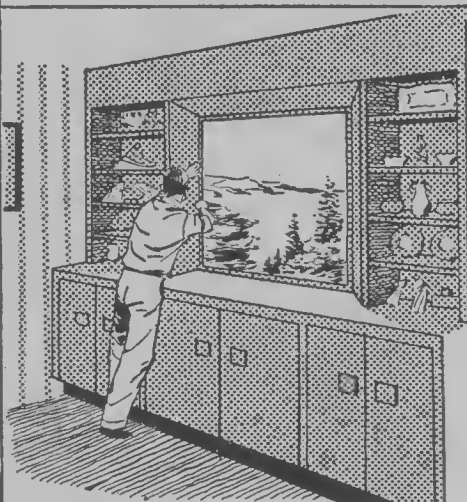
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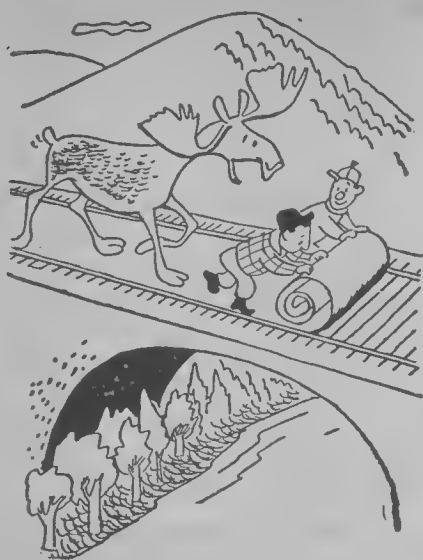
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I turned rather helplessly around to George Marker, who came to my side at once.

"What's your problem?" he asked the fellow.

"Old Jack—why, you're not Old Jack!"

"Do you know any Jack?" George Marker asked me. I shook my head. "There isn't any Jack here. Now I suggest you go on home and stop annoying these ladies."

The man was indignant. "Old Barney never annoyed anyone in his life! I thought this was Three-see. I thought Old Jack lived here. I was going to ask Old Jack for five bucks. I gotta have five bucks. Maybe you could let me have—"

"Now see here," said George Marker. "You'd better go on home."

"I've got a wife and five kiddies at home." His voice was pleading.

"I don't loan money to bums," said George.

"You can't call Old Barney a bum! Why, I'm a respectable, hard-working longshoreman, a little down on my luck, that's all."

Jenny came to the door too then, and said not unkindly, "What Old Jack did you want to see?"

"Jack Throw. Longshoreman. Lives in Three-see, I thought."

"Oh, 3-C," I said.

"That's John Thoreau," said Jenny.

"Yes, Old Jack Throw. Where is this friend of my bosom?" his voice wavered.

"Upstairs," said Jenny. "This is 2-C."

He looked at the door plate. "So it is!" He slapped his leg. "Say girlie, I won't forget you. Old Barney never forgets a friend."

"O.K.," said George Marker, shutting the door.

We heard the fellow as he went up the stairs. "Humph. He calls me a bum. I'll go to Old Jack. He's got a heart of gold. He'll give Old Barney a loan. You bet!"

I WAS searching for something to say, when Pete came in, and we got down to what Pete calls "brass tacks." George explained the life policy, its provisions and all.

"Sounds like a good deal to me," said Pete. "What d'you think, hon?"

"I trust your judgment," I said.

"What do you think of it, Jenny?" Pete asked her.

She looked at us all, smiling and said, "Fine."

"That's not really what you're thinking," said George Marker, smiling too. "Come on, tell us."

"It's just that I don't believe in insurance."

"Why, you've got to have insurance in this life!" Pete declared.

"That's just it. I don't believe in this kind of life."

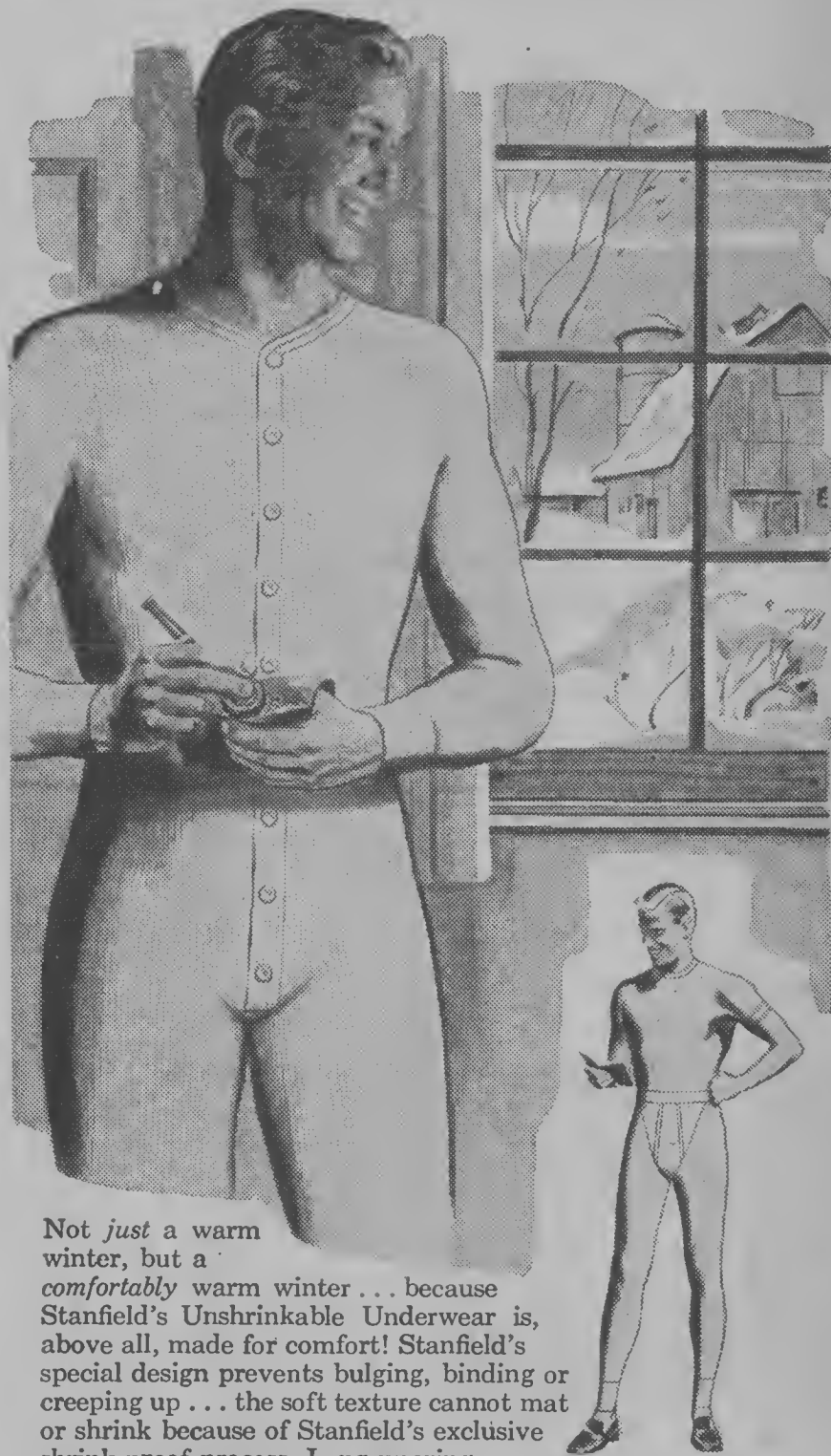
"Jenny doesn't believe in bacon or permanent waves either," I explained to George Marker so. his feelings wouldn't be hurt. "Jenny wants to get back to nature."

George Marker's feelings weren't damaged a bit, though. "What do you believe in, then?" he said.

"Oh," she said, resting her cheek on her hand, "the simple life. The natural life."

"But my dear young lady we're living in a complex civilization. Civilization can provide the means for happiness. Insurance is one of the good things of this civilization. It makes a

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½-lb. pkg., 1-lb.
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Cheese Strata

12 slices day-old bread
2½ cups milk

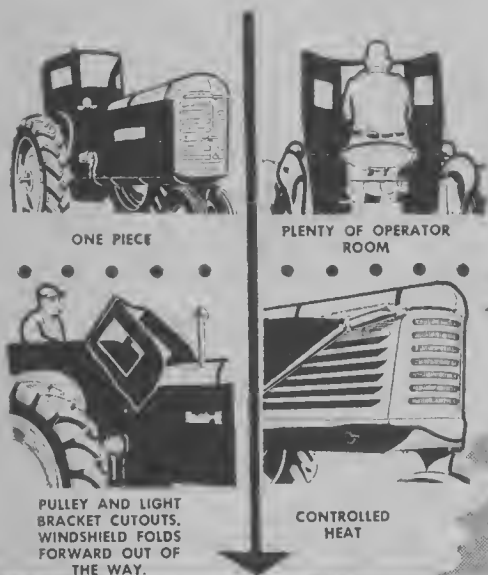
½ lb. Velveeta (cut from 2-lb. loaf)

4 eggs
Salt, pepper

Arrange 6 slices bread (crusts trimmed) in bottom of baking dish, fitting them in closely, and put a slice of Velveeta on each. Cover with remaining 6 slices of bread. Beat eggs, add milk and seasonings, and pour over bread and Velveeta. Let stand an hour. Bake in very moderate oven, 325°, about 40 minutes, or until puffed up and lightly browned. Serve plain or with jelly.

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lot of people happy by giving them a feeling of security," said George Marker.

"I'm going to have a log house in the wilderness some day," Jenny said. "That's what I call happiness."

We heard the sound as of many horses on the stairs. "I won't forget Old Jack. You bet I won't."

"What's that?" said Pete.

"Some bum," said George Marker.

"He's a hard-working man, down on his luck," I said. "He stopped in, thinking that his friend lived here."

"Old Barney never forgets a friend." We could hardly hear him now as he went out to the street.

"He wanted to borrow some money," George explained.

"From you?" Pete said. "Of all the nerve. I would have pasted him one in the snout."

"Well, I must be going," said George Marker. He turned to me and said, "Glad to have met you. Pete's going to be happy with you." He turned to Jenny and said, "I'd like to continue our discussion one day."

Here Jenny should have said, "Yes, do come back," but she didn't. So I said it. "Yes, do come back. You're welcome at any time."

I opened the door and he went out, and almost bumped into a man in the hall.

"Pardon me," he said.

"No, my mistake," said the man in the hall. Jenny stood up and came to the door. It was the Bearded One.

"Hello," he said. George Marker had gone on down the hall.

"Hello." Jenny stood there shyly a minute. "Come on in."

SHE introduced him to Pete and the two men shook hands. But I knew Pete well enough to know that he was bristling under the collar, the way that dogs do when they meet someone they don't like.

"I want to apologize for Barney," said John Thoreau. "He gave you girls a bad time, didn't he?"

"Well, no—He thought you lived here," I said.

"He used to be a fine fellow. Steady, reliable workman. That was until his daughter died. She was a curly-headed little tike—I saw her picture. He's been hitting the bottle ever since. Works half a day and collects his pay and gets drunk."

"Oh that's too bad," I said.

"Does he really have a wife and five kiddies at home?" said Jenny.

John Thoreau laughed. "He has quite a family."

"How on earth do they make ends meet?" I said.

"His wife scrubs floors. That helps some. And there's lots of folks with kind hearts in this world."

Pete snorted. "If people would quit dishing out dough to a panhandler like that, maybe he'd get in and dig a little."

"Now Pete," I said. "Haven't you ever been down on your luck?"

"You bet your sweet life I have," said Pete. "And did I go bumming around asking for handouts? That's why I'm where I am today."

"And where are you today, my friend?" asked John Thoreau without rancor.

"I've got a good job running a tug, and I get steady pay. I'm buying a home in North Vancouver, and if any-

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thing happens to me, my wife's going to be well provided for."

"Yes," I explained to John Thoreau. "We're going to be married in a couple of months."

"Oh," said John Thoreau. He had devils in his black eyes and they were laughing. "Congratulations."

Jenny put on her coat. It was green, and just matched her eyes.

"Going somewhere?" he asked, as though there was no one else in the room.

"To work. It's time."

"May I walk with you?"

"Of course."

After they left I saw that Pete was still bristling.

"You don't like John Thoreau, do you?" I said.

Pete snorted. "Why does he wear a beard?"

Now I rather liked his bearded face and I said as much.

Pete just snorted again. "What does he do?"

"He's a writer."

"Oh, a writer. Does he support himself at it?"

"I don't think so. He goes longshoring sometimes."

"Then he's a longshoreman."

"He's writing a novel," I said.

"I hope he makes some money at it before Jenny gets too involved with him."

"Money isn't everything," I said.

"I'd hate to see Jenny falling for a jerk. She's a fine girl."

I ignored the first part of his remark. After all, Pete didn't know John Thoreau. Why argue with him? Pete had had to work hard ever since he was sixteen. I guess that's why he

resented anyone who didn't have to plug along like himself.

Jenny and John Thoreau saw each other as often as they could. Mostly it was late at night or early in the morning, as both of them had two jobs, and Jenny's took up all her civilized hours. This had been going on for about a month when the incident of Bone Island occurred.

It was really spring then, and spring brought back the gentle mists, and the restless sound of the waves

and John Thoreau were gone all day long—and that they didn't come home that night.

I was rather worried about Jenny when she didn't show up. I had the utmost confidence in John Thoreau's ability to take care of her; but the currents of the Sound are treacherous when not reckoned right, and the fog had come rolling in. I thought of calling the boathouse, but I didn't know what boathouse they'd left from. I thought of calling Pete, but I didn't want to hear him snort again. I



beating against the docks, and the longing to go. John Thoreau borrowed a motorboat and he and Jenny left one Sunday morning early for a voyage to an uninhabited spot on Bone Island, about a dozen miles up the Sound. They were going to fish for salmon on the way.

Someone in a ground floor apartment must have seen Jenny leave with John Thoreau in the wee hours. There'd been busy tongues at the Inlet View for a month or so now, and I think everyone at the apartment house must have known that Jenny

thought finally of calling the Coast Guard, but in spite of everything I had the feeling that they were all right, and that they'd resent my interference. So I told myself that I'd wait until morning before making a move.

I must have dozed off, because it was almost light when I woke up. The dawn was breaking and the fog was gone. The waters looked peaceful and kind of pink in the early morning light, and I found it hard to think that anything had happened to Jenny.

I made a pot of coffee and was about to call Pete and ask him what

to do, when Jenny walked in with John Thoreau. He was holding her hand. Both of them looked so exhausted that I could not scold.

"Jenny! I've been up all night! I was going to call the Coast Guard!"

John Thoreau said, "The motor gave out. We used oars, so we had to wait for the tide."

I was so relieved to see Jenny and felt such an admiration for John Thoreau's resourcefulness, that all at once I laughed.

"Sit down and have some coffee. I'll make some bacon and eggs."

"Yes," said Jenny as I fried the bacon. "I could use some coffee. It's almost time for business college."

"You're very tired. Why don't you skip it today?" John Thoreau sat beside her in the breakfast nook. Her hair was unkempt, and he brushed a wisp of it from her face.

"No," she said, "I can't."

"Oh yes, you can."

"No." She smiled at him.

I put bacon and eggs and toast with butter in front of them. Neither of them said anything about not believing in bacon, but ate in silence. They were both tired. I remember the way they sat in the breakfast nook, Jenny leaning against John Thoreau's arm just a little, and John Thoreau looking down at her with a little smile, devotedly . . . I remember thinking then: Jenny and John Thoreau were made for each other.

Well, Mrs. Nuney had seen them come in, and I was afraid of gossip. I was right to be afraid. I heard wisps of it like poison snakes slinking vilely in among the rooms at Inlet View. I knew how miserable gossip can make a girl, so I determined to say some-

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thing to Jenny, something that had been on my mind ever since the first.

One night when Jenny was brushing her hair and I was putting curlers in mine for the night, I said:

"Are you going to marry John Thoreau?"

She stopped brushing her hair. "I think so."

"Can't you get him to give you a ring?"

Her image in the mirror looked at me. "Why?"

"Oh, there's a lot of talk about you two. It would look a lot better if you were officially engaged, instead of . . ."

There was a little scorn in her voice. "I don't care about public opinion." She brushed her hair a few more strokes. "What do they say?"

"Oh, going out at all hours. Coming in at all hours. And then, Bone Island . . ."

"The motor really did give out."

"I don't doubt it," I assured her.

"Anyway," she said, "we don't believe in rings. Or I don't. What are

"No thanks. You're going to get ulcers if you drink too much of that in the morning."

His eyes laughed, and he poured a glass for himself. "Have an apple, then. Cheese—cheese—oh, I ate up the cheese. I've got to go longshoring tomorrow. Rent's due and I've got to buy more provisions." He sat down on the edge of the couch and drank his wine. "What can I do for you?"

"Perhaps I shouldn't have come here," I said, "but Jenny's family are all in the East."

The devils in his eyes were quiet when I spoke of Jenny.

"Well? You're worrying about the other night?"

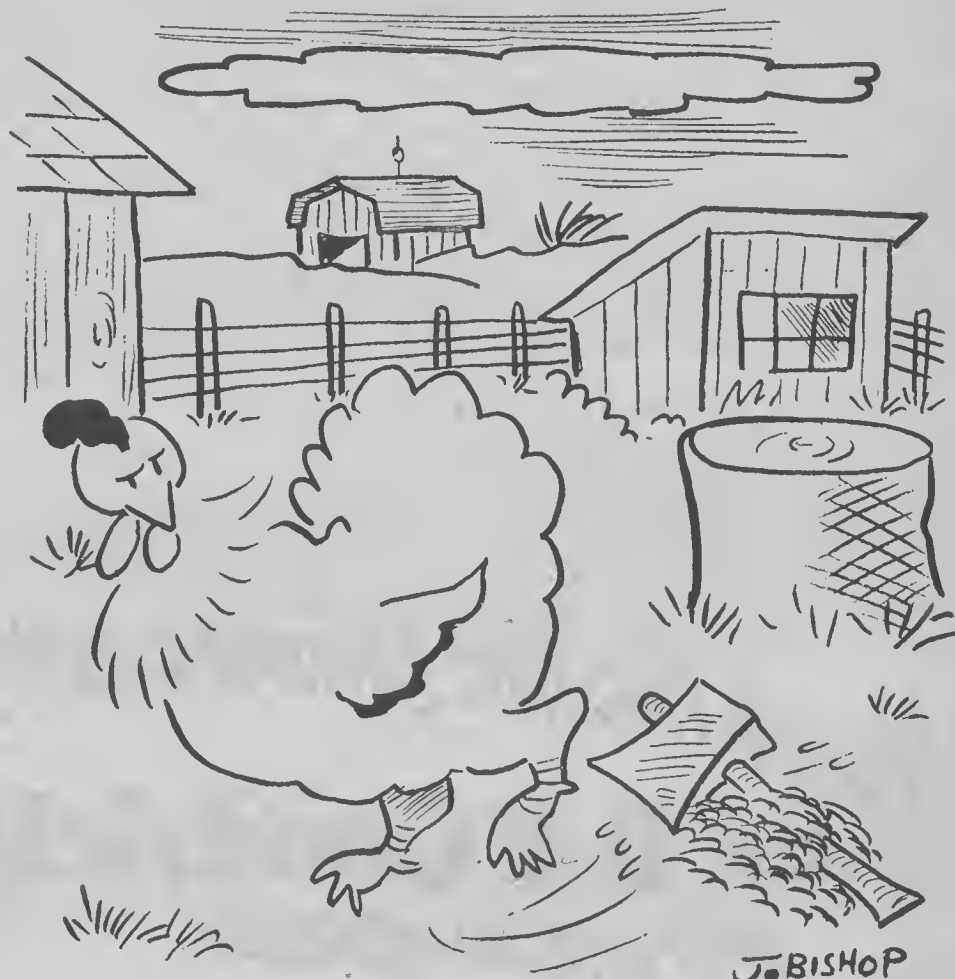
"No," I said, "no. I'm not worrying; but half the residents of this apartment building are worrying."

"What the —" said John Thoreau.

"You're a man of the world enough to know that gossip never does anyone any good. Especially a girl."

"Does it bother Jennifer?"

"She doesn't seem to care—"



"I think I'll bury th' hatchet . . . it might fall on somebody's head!"

they? Mere baubles. Mere gaudy baubles. With the money we spend on a ring, we could buy a few acres, and build a log cabin."

She looked so sweet and earnest sitting there that I didn't say anything more. But after the lights were out, I decided to do something that perhaps I shouldn't have done, something that a lady should never, never do.

I HAD a few qualms when I knocked at John Thoreau's door the next day, but they were overruled by my belief that I was doing the best thing for Jenny.

John Thoreau bowed when he saw me, and the devils of laughter in his black eyes began to dance. "Come in. Sit down."

I looked around me helplessly. The couch was unmade, and the two chairs were covered with papers and books.

"Oh, excuse me. I don't have any files." He removed a couple of stacks of typed yellow pages from one of the chairs, and dusted it off with his handkerchief. "Have a drink of good red wine?"

"Why should it bother you, then?"

I said, "I don't like to have Jenny talked about."

John Thoreau looked at me, and his dark eyes were sharp and darker than ever. He didn't say anything for a minute, and he'd forgotten his wine. "Well?"

He said it as though he were asking my advice, so I was brazen enough to say: "Are you and Jenny going to be married?"

"She didn't tell you?"

"Jenny doesn't tell everything she knows," I said. "Even to me."

He smiled a little, but the devils did not wake up. He looked down at his typed yellow pages.

"Why don't you give her a ring?" I went on. "It would look so much better. Jenny doesn't care; but she's young and has no sense of propriety."

"Oh, propriety be damned!" said John Thoreau.

I had said all I was going to say, and I left.

One night not long afterward, when Pete brought me home from a late

show, we walked in to find Jenny curled up on the couch, reading a book. Her eyes were kind of dreamy when she looked up, so I suspected John Thoreau had been there.

"Have a good time?" she said.

"You bet," said Pete. I was going to ask how about coffee all around, when I noticed the third finger of her left hand.

"Jenny!" I cried. "He gave you a ring!"

She tried not to show how pleased she was, but I could tell by the little quiver in her voice. "Like it?" She held out her hand.

It wasn't a diamond. It was an emerald, a far better gem for a girl like Jenny. The green lights and soft tones were like the greens of the forest when the sunlight filters through. It was obvious that it had come straight from John Thoreau's heart, and I knew that this ring meant more to Jenny than she'd admit.

I was almost as pleased as Jenny. Pete smiled and said, "Got him hooked, hey, Jenny? Congratulations."

His voice, however, wasn't exactly enthusiastic. Jenny didn't seem to notice. I thought at first that his attitude was due to the fact that John Thoreau had given her an unconventional jewel, but later I realized that it was because the ring Jenny wore must have cost a great, great deal more than John Thoreau could afford to pay.

At that time, our dream home was almost ready for Pete and me. I was too absorbed in it to think much about Jenny and John Thoreau . . . until one day early in the summer . . .

I had been in North Vancouver that day, but had come back to the apartment earlier than I expected, and I was sitting at our kitchen nook making



"I should have been suspicious of that muscle-building course Dad bought me last year."

out a list of things still wanting in our cottage.

I heard the front door shut, and I knew that Jenny'd come into the living room. I was going to call out to her, but I didn't. She must have sat down and begun to read, for everything grew silent again. I was absorbed in my homeplanning.

Then there came a knocking at the door, and I heard Jenny get up to answer it.

"Jennifer Shattuck?" said a strange voice.

"I'm Jennifer Shattuck."

"I'm from Smith Brothers, Jewelers." I didn't like his voice, though the words he used were perfectly polite. "Oh?"

"It's about this ring you're wearing," he said. I heard Jenny ask him to come in.

"John Thoreau owes us quite a sum on it. He hasn't made a payment for some time."

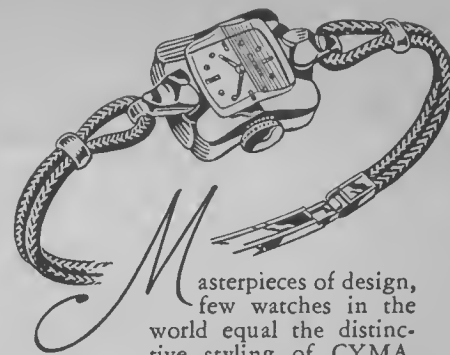
"You—you'll have to talk to him," said Jenny. "I really don't know anything about it."

"He isn't in right now. We've sent him letters and tried to get in touch with him. He's called us several times and promised to make a payment, but he hasn't paid yet."

"What do you want me to do? I certainly can't pay for it."

"That's up to you." By this time his voice was so nasty that I wished Pete was there to paste him one on the jaw. "The title to the ring is still ours, you know. If we don't hear from him in the next day or two, we may have to ask for the return of it."

I sat very still in the kitchen after the man left. I didn't want Jenny to come in and find me. I didn't want her to know I knew.



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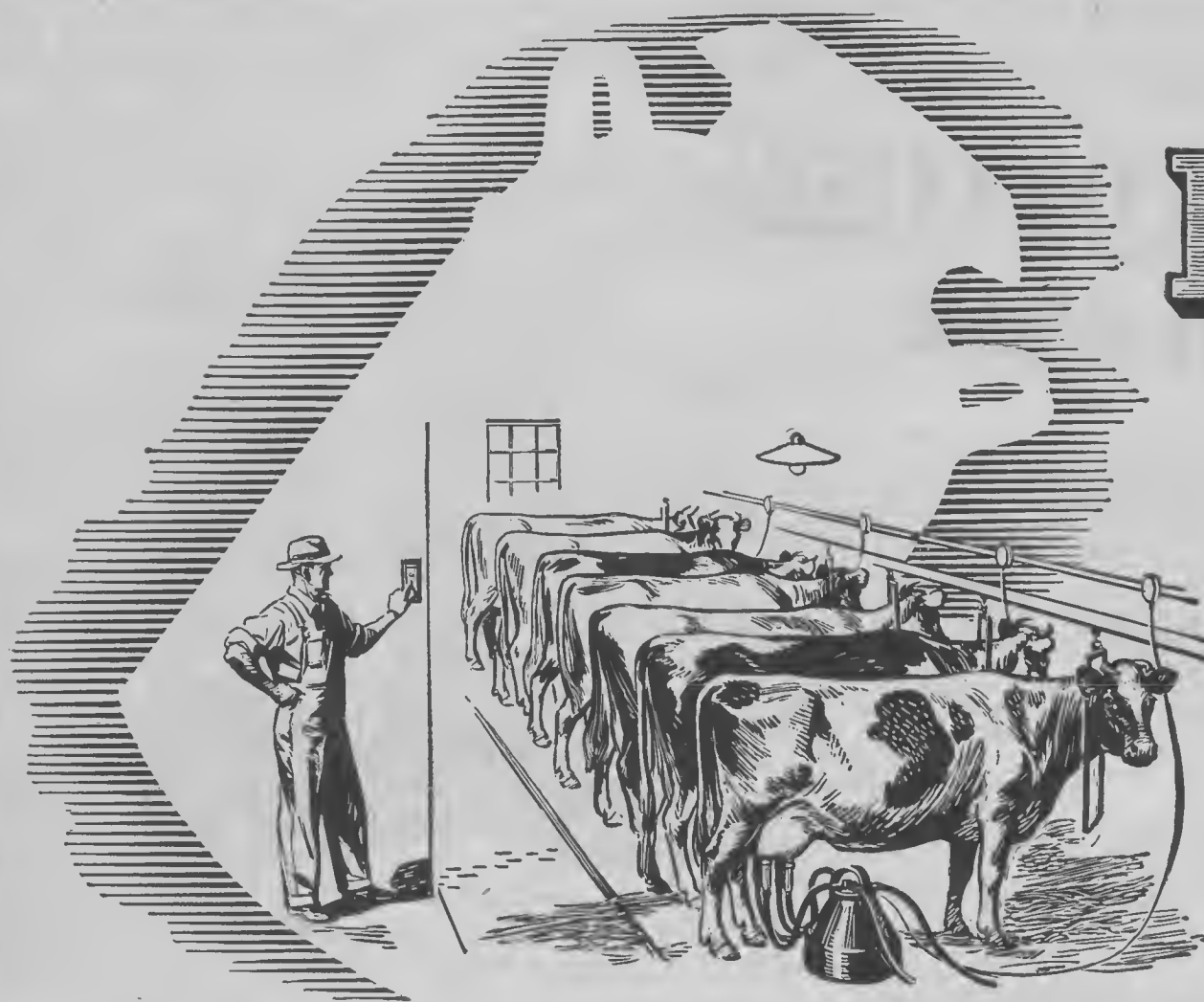
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But she didn't come in. I think she stood at the Inlet view window for a time, and then I heard her go out.

She didn't wear the ring after that. There was a strange little hurt look in her eyes, but I pretended not to notice. Jenny said nothing to me about the ring.

I didn't say anything to Pete about it until the night he said to me, "What's the matter with Jenny?"

"What do you mean?" I said.

"She seems kind of down at the mouth."

"I guess she must be working too hard."

"Is she still engaged to that jerk?"

"Why do you ask that?"

"That high-class emerald isn't on her finger any more."

I told him then what I'd heard, and that I imagined that Jenny had insisted on returning it, since they couldn't pay for it.

"That's swell!" he said.

"What do you mean?" I said.

"She's got time to think things over now that she knows what kind of a guy he is."

I was indignant. "Just because he can't pay for a fancy emerald doesn't mean he isn't devoted to her."

"If he's so devoted, why didn't he go out and get a job instead of letting her give up the ring? I'd dig ditches before I'd do a thing like that."

"Everyone doesn't look at things the way you do. John Thoreau's a writer, not a day-laborer, and when he sells his novel he'll be able to buy her a dozen rings."

"Does Jenny feel the same way you do?"

"I'm sure she does. She sees him all the time."

Pete groaned. "Poor little Jenny. I hope she realizes what kind of life he'll give her before she marries and has a family."

I wasn't going to argue with him. Pete loved me quite a lot after his fashion, but he just didn't have any romance in his soul.

her business course that day. John Thoreau had finished his novel a couple of weeks before and he was celebrating too.

Jenny and John Thoreau had come early in a canoe to the beach a few miles out. They'd dug clams when the tide was low, and laid them in seaweed on rocks in the fire; and they'd plastered whole potatoes with mud,



"I'm okay so long as I don't look down."

Even now I think sometimes of those days just before Pete and I were married, and sometimes when I see Jenny—which is all too seldom—I wonder what memories she has of that time, and what regrets. But I never say anything about my wonderings to Pete, for he never liked John Thoreau.

I'll never forget the night of the clambake.

It was a couple of nights before we were married. The party was partly for us and partly for Jenny, who'd finished

and pushed them into the coals. When Pete and I came later in the car, the potatoes were done clear through and the clams had steamed themselves open.

As we sat by the fire we could see the lights on the ferry-boats out on the black water, and we heard the lapping of the waves nearby. The moon was large and as orange as a jack-o'-lantern, and we all felt light-hearted sitting there eating clams. John Thoreau had brought his guitar, and we sang—even Pete.

John Thoreau made a merry picture sitting Indian fashion by the fire. He handed Jenny a clam affectionately. "Here's a clam for my lady love, for tomorrow we must part."

"That would make a lovely poem," I said.

"What are you parting for?" Pete said.

Jenny said, "John's going to Alaska."

There was silence for a minute, and I sought to fill it up. "How exciting. How about you Jen?"

"I'm—staying here and working." There wasn't bitterness in her voice, but just a little sadness, just a little longing.

Pete was about to say something, but I interrupted.

"You've got a good job now," I said.

"I've been offered a stenographic position," she said.

"Oh yes," I said, "with the lumber company on the Island."

"No; it's with the Northwest Pacific Insurance Co."

"That's a good outfit," said Pete. "They handle my insurance."

"I thought you didn't believe in insurance," I said to Jenny.

"I don't," she said. "But it's a good-paying job and I can work at the restaurant at night and earn extra. I'll save my money, and John—"

"There's money in Alaska," said John Thoreau. "This is a good year for salmon. In two or three months I can make enough to buy a few acres near Comox, and build that log house."

Jenny looked happy, and I said, "Oh, that's fine. That's really fine."

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That's what you've both been wanting."

But Pete said, "You should have gone earlier. This is late in the season to be going to Alaska."

"I know," said John Thoreau, "but I couldn't go any earlier."

"No," I said to Pete. "He was writing his great novel." Then I said to John Thoreau, "Have you heard from the publisher?"

"Yes." John Thoreau laughed. "No luck."

"Oh. That's too bad."

"That's all right. I sent it to another. It may take ten years, but I suppose it'll be published in time. Most good novels are published, in time."

"That's not a very practical way of looking at things," Pete said.

"Maybe not," said John Thoreau. "There's nothing practical about writing."

"You can laugh. You don't have a family to support," said Pete who was bristling. I grew more and more uncomfortable. I looked over at Jenny. She was sitting by John Thoreau, smiling a little, listening to both of them, but not saying anything. I thought the last remark of Pete's may have hit Jenny, so I tried to smooth things over.

"Now Pete," I said. "If a man can make a year's wages in three months in Alaska, why should he plug along every day in the city?"

"Because there's security in it! Don't you appreciate that?"

"Of course I appreciate it," I said. "But I can see the other side of it, too."

Pete started to snort, so I tried to change the conversation. "I wonder what time it's getting to be?"

John Thoreau looked up at the stars. "I'd say it's about 10:30."

Pete jerked his watch from his pocket. I could see the dial before he thrust it back. It was 10:30.

"We should go home," I said to Pete.

"Yeh. I'm a working man."

I STARTED to pick up things and Pete helped me. John Thoreau smothered the fire with shovels full of sand. It was Jenny who noticed first that the canoe was gone. John Thoreau walked down the beach with her to look. They came back laughing. "It's gone, all right. Must have drifted with the tide."

"We can all ride home together then," I said.

John Thoreau looked at the moon and then at Jenny. "It's a fine night for a walk."

"But it's seven miles to home," I said.

The devils in John Thoreau's eyes woke up as they always did when he looked at me. He was amused.

Pete said to John Thoreau, "You can't keep a nice girl like Jenny out all night."

John Thoreau's eyes looked down at Jenny. "What do you say, Jennifer? Do you want to ride or walk?"

She smiled the same shy little smile she'd had the first day. I knew then for sure that the matter of the ring was a dead issue between them. "You know. We'll walk under the stars." She leaned her head against his sleeve ever so slightly, and he put his arm around her shoulders.

"You heard Jennifer's opinion, friend," he said to Pete.

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Pete exploded. "Jenny may be too young to have any sense, but you shouldn't be a complete fool—"

"Now Pete," I said. "John Thoreau's over 21, and Jenny's practically 21, and if they want to walk home in the moonlight its certainly none of our affair."

Jenny came over and linked her arm through Pete's. "Don't be concerned about me, Pete. I like to walk and I like the moon and the stars, and I don't have to get up as early and work as hard as you do. Please be nice and say it's all right, or you'll make me unhappy."

"O.K." said Pete. "I won't make you unhappy. You're going to have enough of that as it is."

I thought then that it was an idle chance remark on Pete's part. Later—but I'll come to that.

On the way home, Pete and I didn't exactly drive in silence.

"At least," I said, "we should have offered to take the shovel and the guitar."

Pete wasn't listening. "Thank heavens Jenny isn't fool enough to go to Alaska with him, anyway."

I didn't have enough intelligence to keep my mouth shut. "I don't know why she doesn't. They could be married and have a lovely time. It's the kind of life that would appeal to Jenny."

"Jenny isn't clear stupid," he said. "She probably wants to have some kids."

"Well, why not? People have been having children in Alaska for quite a number of years."

"Would you want to have kids without giving them a home?"

I was thinking it over when he added, "And thank God she'll be work-

ing for Northwest Pacific. She'll be seeing something of George Marker."

"Oh," I said. "Jenny isn't interested in his type."

AFTER we were married, I didn't see Jenny for some time. I knew that she was busy with her two jobs. I should have called her, but she knew I didn't feel very well. At first I was sleepy, and then I felt nauseated. But that was no excuse for me not to have called Jenny. One morning Jenny called me on the telephone. She asked me how I was. I said fine, and asked her how the job was with the Insurance Company. She said fine.

"Do you ever see anything of George Marker?" I asked.

"Oh yes, he's in and out of the office."

I asked her what she heard from John Thoreau. She said he wrote to her intermittently: he was working 16 hours a day and more on a canning boat.

It was nice to hear her voice, and I had a sudden desire to see Jenny again. "Why don't I meet you for lunch Saturday, Jen?"

"Oh, I'd love to! But I don't go out to lunch."

I knew she was trying to save money, and I thought that her refusal might be an economy measure, so I said, "Jenny, let me take you to lunch. I haven't been out myself for so long that you'd be doing me a favor."

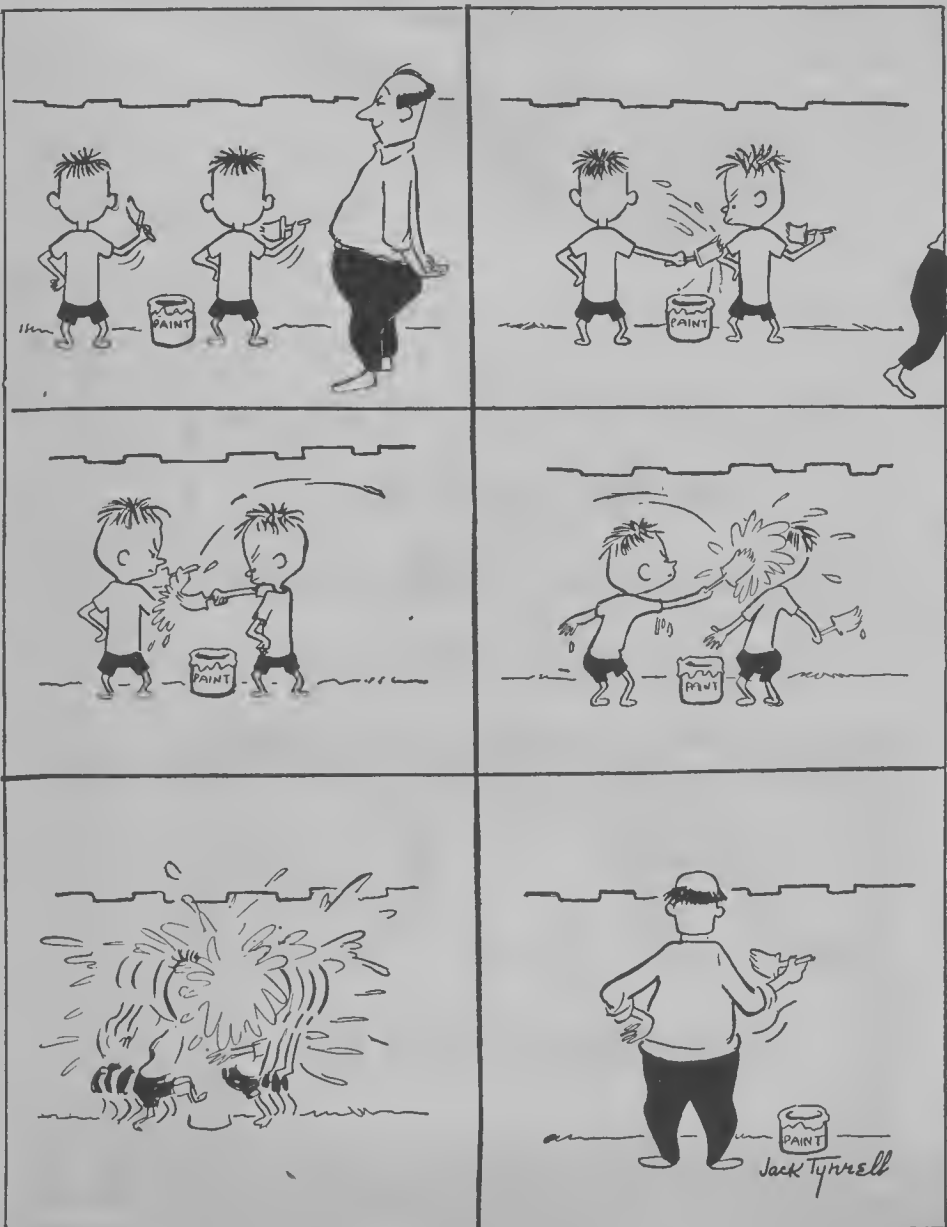
She finally agreed. I craved a crab cocktail, so I thought I'd take her to a rather expensive seafood place near the waterfront. Pete worked only half a day on Saturday. He'd meet me there and drive me home.

I was a little startled when I saw Jenny. Her face was lined and there were dark circles under her eyes. Holding down two jobs was beginning to

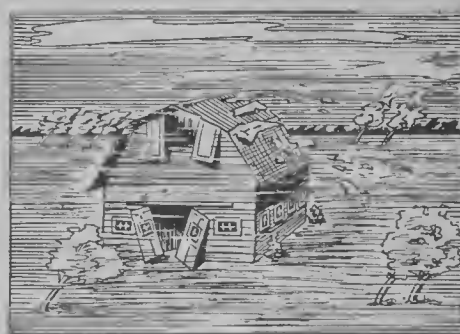


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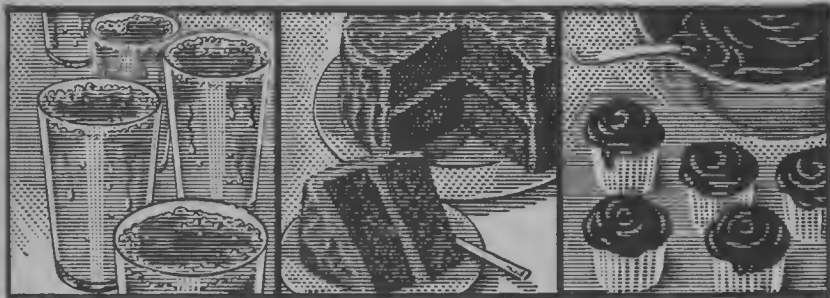
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tell on her, and I think that being alone in the city in summer was an added strain.

But she was still my sweet little Jenny. She told me she was taking an hour and a half off for lunch that day. I was pleased; I asked her if she'd like to shop with me a little while before we ate.

I bought a couple of things I needed. There was a sweet blouse at the Bon that just suited Jenny: she looked at it a minute, and seemed to like it, but evidently decided that she couldn't afford it.

We saw some blue knitted bootees as we passed the Infant's Department in the big store. We stopped. I bought a pair.

"Is it for you?" she said in delight. I nodded.

Her tired look was gone now and eagerly she talked about baby garments with me. I bought half a dozen undershirts, and left an order for four dozen diapers. Jenny looked at a hand-knit sweater set. It was just darling, but a little expensive. She sighed, and put it down again.

As we went past the Needlework Department, Jenny bought an instruction book for knitted baby things. I told her that wasn't necessary. She said it was necessary, and bought the best quality baby yarn they had.

I had called in a reservation at the seafood restaurant for 12:30. So I had time to stop at the Public Market as we were passing, to buy a half dozen avocados for myself and a half dozen to give to Jenny. She was entirely too thin to suit me. I knew she was getting at least one good meal each night at the restaurant.

We had crab cocktails and a fine meal of salmon steaks. The place was crowded, but we had a table by the window. We were finishing our coffee and I was eating an avocado when Pete came in. I didn't see at first who was with him.

"Hi, Jen." Pete said.

"Hi, Pete." Her face was tired again, but her eyes were bright. "Congratulations on the Coming Event."

Pete looked a little flustered, but pleased. He turned around and said, "You remember Mr. Marker?"

"Yes," I said. "How are you, Mr. Marker?"

His eyes lit up when he saw Jenny; but they twinkled as he smiled at me. "I'm fine, but my name is George."

As they sat down, Pete told me that he'd been talking over a new policy with George Marker.

"We can take it out the day the baby is born," he said, "and when he's 18, he's got enough cash to go to college or start up a little business."

"And if anything happens to me, the policy's all paid up," Pete went on.

George Marker outlined the other provisions of the policy. George Marker had a good head. I bet he was worth quite a few thousand a year. I remember thinking what a lucky girl it would be who landed him.

"So you do go out to lunch," he said to Jenny, half in reproach, half in affection.

"Very seldom," Jenny said. Her smile was friendly, but impersonal in its friendliness. I knew that the only man in her thoughts was John Thoreau. "It's time for me to go." She picked up her purse and gloves and the package of baby yarn.

"I'm going to the office myself," said George Marker. "I know you don't believe in automobiles, but I'd like to save you the walk. Will you ride with me this time?"

Jenny laughed as she took the bag of avocados. "Oh, all right."

They left, and Pete had a cup of coffee with me.

"Now that," said Pete, "is a guy she ought to see a lot more of."

"Why?" I said. "Give her credit for being faithful to John Thoreau. They'll be married at the end of the summer."

"Maybe," he said. "There's a lot of men who earn a hell of a lot of money in Alaska, but little of it ever sees home."

"How come?" I was curious.

"They drink it up, or play cards. Sweetheart, you'd be surprised—"

"You don't have to run John Thoreau down all the time. He's a very under-



"Luke, it's time for a change—put on your winter unnersoot this minute!"

standing man and he has a heart of gold," I said.

Pete looked at me with one of his withering looks. I went on calmly.

"You know as well as I do that Jenny wouldn't be happy with a city man like George Marker. Jenny is a . . . nature girl."

Pete hooted. "It sure doesn't go against nature to marry a man who'll at least give you a roof over your head." I didn't even answer him. Pete has set ideas and no imagination, and it's impossible to explain your viewpoint to anyone like that.

I HEARD no word of Jenny or John Thoreau—or George Marker, for that matter—until several weeks later.

I was fixing supper in the kitchen when Pete came home. He put his lunch bucket on the drainboard and parked himself on the kitchen stool, and looked so smug that I said, "You look like you're about to burst open with something."

That's what he'd been waiting for. "Guess who I had a talk with today down at the waterfront."

"Whom?" I asked.

"Your friend John Thoreau."

"Oh really?" I asked. "I thought he wouldn't be back from Alaska for a couple of days yet."

"The boat got in early."

"Did he make thousands of dollars?"

"I guess he made quite a pile," Pete said, but he wasn't unhappy about it.

"I guess you were wrong," I said. "I guess he and Jenny will be married before you know it."

But he looked at me in a way that made me know that there was more to come. "Guess who else I saw, going for a stroll along the waterfront with George Marker."

I knew it was Jenny, and I asked if John Thoreau saw her.

"From the look on his pan, I guess he did."

"Well, maybe it's a good thing. I think maybe John Thoreau's been taking Jenny a little for granted. He's got enough money now that they can be married, and this should just spur him on."

I WAITED discreetly for a few days, then I called up Jenny.

"Well, have you any news?" I asked.

"Not much."

"I hear John Thoreau's back."

"Yes."

"How was the fishing in Alaska?"

"Pretty good."

I came right out and asked her. "Was it good enough to get a few acres in the wilderness?"

"I'm afraid not." Her voice sounded discouraged, so much that I said,

"What is it, Jenny? Tell me if it makes you feel better."

Well, she told me that she'd seen John Thoreau, and life was sweet. He was full of bright promises for everything her heart desired, and she was all set to quit her job. It was as I supposed: seeing her with George Marker, had done something to him.

And then, a couple of days later, she'd found out that John Thoreau was broke again.

"What on earth did he do with the money?"

"He loaned it," she said, "to Old Barney."

I didn't think I heard her right.

"He said Barney Smith needed it worse than we did." I didn't know whether she was laughing or crying.

"Oh, honey—"

"Oh, I know that Mr. Smith has a wife and five children, but it seems to me they could have got help from

the Family Welfare. But Mr. Smith was too proud to ask for charity aid.

"Is his wife still working?"

"No. That's what started it. She fell downstairs and fractured her hip and her right arm. The doctors at the General Hospital say she'll never be able to scrub floors again."

"That's awful," I said. "How will the five little kiddies get by?"

"Well," she said, "Mr. Smith has laid off the bottle ever since it happened."

"That's fine. Maybe he'll really take care of them now."

"Maybe! John said he needed money to get over the hump, though. Barney wants to pay off his financial obligations and begin life anew."

"What financial obligations can Old Barney have? Bar bills?"

"Well, it does cost money to raise five kids. Mr. Smith has lots of friends and they knew his wife worked and

they let him have credit, and—Oh well, he did promise to pay John back when he gets on his feet again."

"Well," I said, "John Thoreau certainly has a heart of gold."

"Yes he does," she said. She didn't say anything more about him except that he'd gone to the Okanagan Valley to pick apples for a couple of weeks. She asked me how I was feeling.

I wondered what Jenny would do now. She could go on the way she'd been this summer, and work to make up for what he'd given away. She could marry John Thoreau and start a home on her own money. Any other girl might break with him—but as I say, Jenny was made for John Thoreau.

It certainly was a problem. It bothered me for several days. And then I thought I knew how Jenny would solve it.

In one of the papers, there's a poetry column which publishes poems of local

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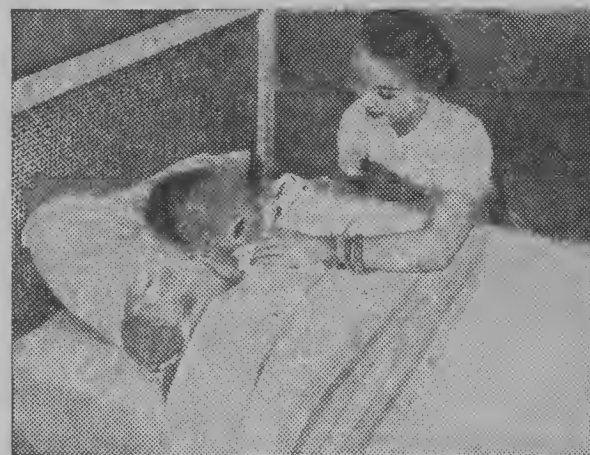


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writers. One morning there was a poem by—John Thoreau.

It was a simple poem, and it was called "Jewels of the Soul." It talked about his inability to buy his love real jewels (and I thought of the emerald), but his eagerness to offer her the treasures of his heart and soul . . . Oh, it was a pretty thing. If it had been written to me, I'd drop everything and go to John Thoreau and we'd be married at once and love each other eternally. Knowing Jenny, I was certain she'd take it to heart, and realize that even if John Thoreau didn't have much money-sense, he was as devoted to her as a man could be. After all, the most important thing in marriage is devotion. Jenny knows that, or else she'd be miserable today.

It was the next day that Jenny made that phone call, asking Pete and me



"Now that you've imitated all the animals and birds, how about imitating a man at work?"

to stand up with them when they were married.

So I was able to ha-ha Pete that night, and tell him that Jenny was really going to be married at last.

It was a nice wedding. It was short and simple as civil ceremonies are, but nice. Jenny's face had a radiance I hadn't seen before, and she seemed very happy. I kissed her afterward, and so did Pete, and then we both shook hands with George Marker. George was the groom.

That all happened a couple of years ago. Today they have a home and an acre just outside the city limits, with a lawn in front and some berries and fruit trees and a garden and a few chickens. They are having a wing built onto their home, so I guess George is still getting ahead in the insurance business. He still claims to be a city man at heart, though he does put in two days a week on "the farm," mowing the grass and helping Jenny with the chickens and the carrots and their year-old toddler. That is only right, for she's going to have another baby this fall.

John Thoreau! Last time I heard of him, he had just returned from a winter of trapping in Alaska. Pete had a beer with him: that's how I know. He'd made quite a stake at trapping and bought a fishing boat of his own, but had lost it somehow by his own error in stormy weather. He was back at the waterfront for an indefinite stay, longshoring sometimes and writing another novel, though his first one is still unpublished. He still talks about the cabin he'll have in the wilderness, someday.

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The Countrywoman

Autumn Measure

Here in your heart the golden half-notes flowing
Through the still wood, the flame staccatos flying
Over the hills; green rest of valley lying
Between the storms of coming and of going.

Touch with your thoughts this music of time's
making—

Oh, wisely touch the sadness and the laughter!—
With full crescendo coming richly after
The storm, the dissonance and the forsaking.

Now in this day of mist, of grey wings turning
The year's torn page, true hand will know the
gleaning

Of star and seed; unerringly the meaning
Of life's chorale will sing through autumn's burning.

—GILEAN DOUGLAS.



New President of A.C.W.W.

THE newly elected president of the Associated Country Women of the World, Mrs. Alice M. Berry, is a native daughter of Australia. She helped her husband, a veteran of World War I, operate a 42,000-acre sheep station in Queensland. Since his death, she has continued in the business of sheep raising with the help of three permanent helpers, one of whom is manager. Mrs. Berry makes her home in Brisbane, some 500 miles away, flying in and out to the station. This arrangement enables her to be near her two married daughters and six grandchildren.

The ranches or "stations" as they are called, are so large that airplanes are used almost as casually in Australia as are cars in this country. Like others on isolated stations, Mrs. Berry, as a homemaker, had to teach her daughters herself, using the Queensland correspondence school course, which she claims is one of the best in the world and is used in countries as far away as Malaya. Of recent years, regular radio school lessons have greatly helped those who live in remote areas as well as in rural communities.

Mrs. Berry has a high regard for the part that women of the nations can play in establishing friendly relations in the world of today. On the occasion of her visit to Canada in August she headed a 20-member group from the various states of Australia and in a press interview said: "Mothers are responsible for the training of children. If they can teach them to look on people of all races as friends, we shall steadily move forward toward universal peace and good will."

In accepting the presidency for the coming three-year term in the A.C.W.W., which has a membership of over six million in 27 countries, Mrs. Berry stressed the need for right thinking and understanding. "We must," she said, "reaffirm our faith in understanding one another. We live in a world that has become one as never before. Distances have shrunk and we are now directly concerned in countries that formerly seemed remote. It took me only 27 hours of travel by air to cross from Australia to Canada. We rural women have a part to play and we must never become complacent. As president, I will endeavor to carry out the program of work laid down. Suggestions concerning rural women's work or organization, in any part of the world, will be welcomed. I hope that you will make them."

Something of what it means to accept responsibility for partaking in the thought and work of an international organization of rural women as viewed through the experience and thinking of two leaders

by AMY J. ROE

The Country Women of Australia has now a membership of some 110,000. Its program is varied, covering fields of educational and practical work. Mrs. Berry has been an active worker and leader for many years. She has attended several conferences of the international association. She is familiar with the pattern of the work in other countries. Australia is in a good strategical position to comprehend some of the world's most pressing problems in eastern countries. Far eastern lands are stirring with restless discontent at their backward place in the procession toward national freedom and higher standards of living for their people. Mrs. Berry has already received invitations to visit India and Israel. Asked about her plans, her reply was: "I have no set plans for the future. We first must learn to crawl—and then perhaps to walk."

Among the possibilities for A.C.W.W. program study and projects during the coming three years, doubtless will be extension of membership into countries not yet affiliated and the development and assistance of those which only recently have joined. There is a vast field, particularly in the less developed but older countries, to set afoot even the most elementary programs tending to combat hunger, poverty, disease, illiteracy and bad housing. Here women's experience and encouragement to other women could be most helpful. The great bulk of the world's population is in the eastern hemisphere and by far the greatest percentage of those people are engaged in farming. And there is too, the spectacle in almost every Asiatic country of humanity crowding upon available but sadly inadequate sources of food and a great lack of productive soil.

To give proper encouragement to the leading educated women of the various countries to partake and support measures whereby farm and village folk may be helped by educational demonstrations and techniques and so stirred to help themselves will be of the utmost importance. Guidance and example will go far toward helping them to analyze and study their own country's needs; to give them a value rating in order of urgency and importance. They can be encouraged to work out and to present programs of work to governments and to the United Nations specialized agencies, such as FAO, WHO, and

UNESCO which have been set up to assist countries with just such problems but always with the approval and co-operation of the government concerned. Many recognizable tasks stand waiting and are worthy of the best thought and effort of women as well as men in these countries and in more fortunate lands.

The A.C.W.W. is an instrument, forged and ready to hand. With 23 years of experience in association on the international level; with knowledge gleaned of programs and techniques successful elsewhere in fields of health, welfare and education, its leaders are in a position to render advice and assistance. By working with the women in those countries, their judgment of what appeals will bring the strongest response, their own understanding and

vision will widen. The A.C.W.W. may well play a most important part in the problems of the world today and tomorrow.

The Larger Vision

A GEM in itself, which may well be treasured by many who have experience in working with organized groups, was the short talk given by Mrs. R. Sayre, retiring president of the A.C.W.W. at the closing session of the conference.

"You have ended the discussions, finished the business and closed the records. We can not go back nor alter anything that has been done. We must go forward. Let us close this meeting by looking to the future.

"You have new officers and given wider responsibilities to the vice-presidents. This is as it should be. The need in this organization is to develop leadership; to give other members the opportunity to serve. The delegates are now more knowledgeable about the association and its base. You have passed new resolutions, which in turn will mean more work and responsibilities. New tasks lie ahead and at times the way may be difficult. Ideas must be translated into action. Our job is essentially one of teaching. You must teach others to help you carry on the work.

"This will require wisdom, patience and courage. It is always easy to do the usual. Have courage to go ahead and to do the unusual. Have a large vision. The larger the vision, the more you will be able to do. We must constantly test our goal by our ideas. We must constantly ask ourselves whether we are still moving toward our international goal of friendship."

Then she told a story of a man, on a sight-seeing trip, who visited a church in Rome and noticed a statue of Christ. His attention was arrested when he noted that the carved figure was incomplete. It had no hands. As he stood studying it curiously, he asked a priest standing nearby: "But why are the hands missing?" The priest gave no answer, merely smiled and passed on. The visitor found that the handless figure stayed in his mind. He returned again to view it, to try to decipher the sculptor's meaning. On this occasion the priest was absent. A slip of paper bearing some written words, lay on the piece of sculpture. The visitor picked it up and read its message: "Remember, He has only our hands to do His work."

Mrs. Sayre closed her memorable talk by repeating a quotation, which she had used in 1947, in a speech when accepting the presidency:

"Lo, I would have fainted utterly, did I not believe that I would see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living."

Pattern of the Job

SOME idea of the broad scope of work and the time and effort put into the job of serving as president was conveyed in Mrs. Sayre's triennial report. Her work fell into three general categories: contacts on behalf of the A.C.W.W. at international meetings; counselling with officers and the executive committee both by correspondence and personal visits to the central office in London and contacts with member societies.

Following the conference in 1950 she visited Germany to attend an international meeting on Citizenship Responsibilities of Women and attended the annual meeting of German country women.

In 1951 at the invitation of the government of Australia, she visited with the C.W.A. in many local areas and annual meetings in six states, and participated in the various functions that marked the celebration of their jubilee of federation. On this round-the-world journey by plane, she visited the Women's Institutes and Women's Division of the Federated Farmers of both the north and south islands of New Zealand and paid a short visit to Hawaii as guest of Home Demonstration Clubs.

Returning by way of England she addressed some 4,000 members of the (Please turn to page 76)



Mrs. A. M. Berry of Queensland, Australia.

An Autumn Packet

Offering a miscellany of pertinent facts and interesting ideas from a number of contributors

Figure Types and Sizes

When buying patterns or ready-made garments it pays to know your figure type

by LILLIAN VIGRASS

WE are still a long way from size standardization of clothing, particularly in Canada. Women find that the clothes they try on may be too long or too short, too wide in the shoulders or too tight in the hips, depending on their figure type. Ready-made clothes vary in length of bodice and skirt, and in width of shoulder, waist and hip, according to the patterns used by a particular manufacturer. There may even be variations in sizes, depending on whether the garments are made in the eastern or western section of the country.

Canadians who buy American clothes find there are variations there, too. The size in years is not always the same for a specific bust measurement. Lengths vary as do hip and shoulder measurements.

Manufacturers of both ready made and patterns have realized for a long time that human figures differ in type. For some years there have been specialty shops in the larger cities in the United States that cater to the tall, short, stout or the slim. Some Canadian stores are now beginning to feature tall-girl sizes or clothes for the short figure. Most women and girls know that there are special lengths now available in stockings and underwear.

Progress has also been made in adapting patterns for special sizes of women's clothing. There are styles especially designed and sized for the woman who is short with a mature figure, for the teen-ager with the slim, youthful figure and for the short junior miss as well as the regular sizes for the average girl and woman.

Many women make extra work for themselves in alterations on patterns and ready made by choosing styles and patterns that are not meant for their figure type. Even with the correct bust size one who is of a short figure finds the misses' sizes too long in bodice and skirt while the tall, willowy girl or woman finds a half-size pattern is too wide at the hips, too narrow in the shoulder and short in the waist.

The terms—teens', juniors', misses', women's sizes and half sizes, therefore, refer, not to age groups, but to the different proportions and heights that combine to make up special figure types.

Women's and misses' patterns are the regular sizes most often sold. They are designed for the girl and woman approximately five feet six inches tall and vary from 12 to 20 years, 30 to 38, 40-inch or larger bust.

The misses' sizes are for the young but well-developed figure which varies approximately ten inches between waist and bust or hip measurements. They are the longest in waist and

skirt measurements of all patterns made. Sizes are from 12 to 20 years or 30 to 38-inch bust.

The women's sizes are similar in length to the misses'. They are meant for the more mature figure, hence are slightly larger in waist and hip proportions. They include the larger bust sizes from 40 to 42, 44, 46, 48 or even 50 inches as well as the 30 to 38-inch size range, and are attractively styled for the larger sized woman.

The half sizes, some of which are shown in the pattern page this month, are specially designed for the woman who is about five feet three inches tall. Planned particularly for the mature figure, they are wider in the waistline and hips than the regular women's and misses' sizes. They are short in the bodice and narrow in the shoulder to allow for the smaller bone structure of the short person. The sizes range from 12½ to 24½ or bust sizes 31 to 43 inches.

The newest additions for most pattern companies are the teens' and junior misses' sizes. The teen patterns are made for the young, slight figure which has not yet developed and is almost as straight as that of a child. They, too, are for the person about

five feet three inches tall, hence are shorter in the waist than the regular sizes. The size range is from 10 to 16 years.

Junior misses' sizes are for the girl who has more bust and hips than the teen-age pattern allows. They are made for the girl about five feet five inches tall in sizes 11 to 18 years or bust sizes 29 to 36 inches. Patterns for the junior miss are longer in the waist and skirt than teen-age sizes but are shorter in skirt length than the regular misses' sizes.

The following table has been prepared as a guide in the choice of a pattern that will suit your figure type. It will be of use, however, in buying ready made, too, so clip it and put it with your pattern file. Reference to it will save you many mistakes when ordering from a catalog and hours of altering when you sew.

The pattern type for you, if you are: five feet three inches and fully developed—a half size from size 12½ to 24½ (bust 31 to 43 inches); five feet three inches with slight young figure—teen sizes 10 to 16 years (28 to 43-inch bust); five feet five inches and well developed—junior miss in 11 to 18 or 29 to 36-inch bust; five feet six inches with fully developed figure—misses' sizes 12 to 20 years (bust 30 to 38 inches); five feet six inches with mature figure—women's sizes 12 to 20 years (30 to 38-inch bust) and as well 40, 42, 44, 46, 48 and 50-inch bust.

Thank-You Notes

by LOUISE PRICE BELL

DO your youngsters sit right down and write a note to their grandmother or Aunt Mary when they return from a week-end at her home? Do they get out their letter-paper, and pen a "thank-you note" to a relative or friend in another town as soon as they receive a gift? If they do these things, they are a credit to their parents and bid fair to be thoughtful, appreciative adults . . . if they don't, the fault lies at the parental door. For habits like this must be started early and—like all habits—if they are started early enough they become a matter of course.

As soon as a child is old enough to hold a pencil, equip him with letter-paper with animal, Mother Goose or airplane designs, and with pencils that are bright and pretty and perhaps even bear his name. These things give him attractive, appealing equipment with which to work, and help to interest him in the project. Mothers can hold chubby hands and guide them over the paper to convey the appreciation the tiny child wishes to express, and as soon as he can print or write he should write the notes himself. They may be little more than

words, but the idea will be implanted in the child's mind . . . and the idea is the important thing. Children who are reared to be appreciative of things done for them develop into thoughtful adults who are a pleasure to know. Yet unless they are taught to be appreciative as little tots they are likely to think little of specially thanking others, at least when the thanks takes the tangible form of letter-writing.

In one home I know well, the youngsters are not allowed to read a gift book or use a game until they have written their thank-you notes or—if the donor lives nearby—thanked him in person or by telephone. This impresses the child with the idea that if anyone cares enough to give another a gift, the recipient should certainly care enough to thank him for it. Younger children in the family often come very naturally by the letter-writing habit and clamor to imitate their older brother or sister who does it so well. In these cases, the older child can help guide the toddler's little hand so that he, too, can write his bread-and-butter letters and gain in the feeling of importance and responsibility.



A thank-you note is fun to write and nice to receive.

Text Books B.C. Style

by VERA LOUCKS

OVER a cup of coffee this morning, I chanced to read for the second time Kay Brook's article, which appeared in The Country Guide of July, 1952. Her experience was so similar to what our family went through in regard to school text books, when I went to school in Manitoba, that it made me slightly homesick. There was a notable difference in that Mrs. Brooks uses the family car, whereas my mother had to hitch the team to the buggy.

Here in British Columbia, now things are quite different. When my youngest reached grade seven he came home on the first day of school and announced: "I need \$3.50 tomorrow for my text book rental." The next day, I gave him the required sum and he brought home a receipt for same. It covers the rental of all the text books which he needs for the year.

Before he reached grade seven the required books were supplied free of charge. From grade ten on, he will pay a book rental fee of \$4.00. In all grades he supplies his own paper, pencils, pens, drawing materials, etc., with the exception of some drawing paper, foolscap and in the lower grades, construction paper.

The text book plan is administered by the Text Book Branch of the Department of Education and is uniform in all districts. The fees collected by the teacher are forwarded to the unit

(Please turn to page 78)

Robin Hood wins again!

TOP BAKING PRIZES IN ALL CLASSES

WON BY ROBIN HOOD USERS AT THE CANADIAN NATIONAL EXHIBITION

LOOK! A CLEAN SWEEP!

ALL THE MORE REASON
WHY YOU SHOULD USE

Robin Hood

With Robin Hood Vitamin Enriched Flour you're sure of better baking results.

For only Robin Hood Flour gives you this guarantee

... either you find it best

by far for all your baking

... or your money is

refunded, with an

extra 10%.

CONGRATULATIONS
WINNERS!

- WHITE BREAD — 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th prize
- BROWN BREAD — 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th prize
- COFFEE CAKE — 1st, 2nd prize

- ROLLS — 1st, 3rd prize
- BRAN MUFFINS — 1st, 2nd, 3rd prize

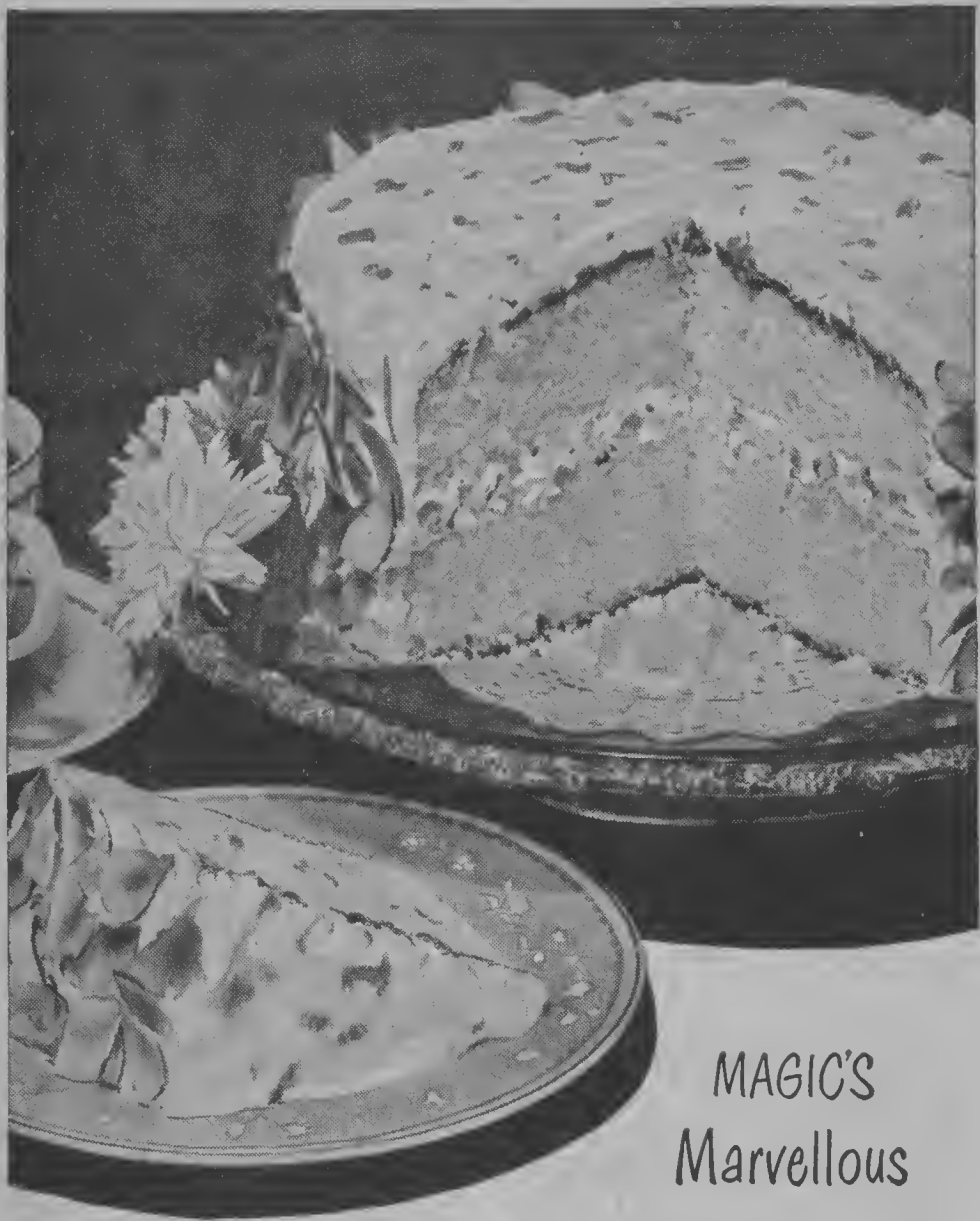
- TEA BISCUITS — 1st, 2nd, 3rd prize

- SPONGE CAKE — 1st prize
- SHORT BREAD — 1st prize
- APPLE PIE — 1st, 2nd prize
- RAISIN PIE — 1st, 2nd prize
- WHITE FRUIT CAKE — 1st prize

JUNIOR SECTION
11 prizes out of a possible 13



Robin Hood *the prize-winning* Flour



MAGIC'S
Marvellous

Pineapple Cake

*So luscious...so tempting...
and—you made it all yourself!*

Yes, in all your baking you can depend on Magic Baking Powder for praise-winning results. Magic is inexpensive, too—protects your investment and results at less than 1¢ per average baking! Check your supply of Magic before you shop this week.



MAGIC PINEAPPLE CAKE

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| 8 tbsps. quick-mix shortening
(at room temperature) | ½ tsp. salt |
| 2 cups once-sifted pastry flour
or 1¾ cups once-sifted
all-purpose flour | 1¼ cups fine granulated sugar |
| 3½ tbsps. Magic Baking Powder | ¼ cup syrup from canned pineapple |
| | ½ cup milk |
| | 1 tsp. vanilla |
| | 2 eggs |

Grease two 8-inch round layer-cake pans and line bottoms with greased paper. Preheat oven to 375° (moderately hot). Measure shortening into mixing bowl. Sift flour, Magic Baking Powder, salt and sugar together once, then sift over the shortening in the mixing bowl. Add the syrup from canned pineapple, milk and vanilla. Beat with a mixing spoon for 300 strokes. Add the unbeaten eggs and beat another 300 strokes. Turn into prepared pans. Bake in preheated oven about 25 minutes.

VIENNESE PINEAPPLE FILLING AND FROSTING:

Turn into upper pan of double boiler 2 egg whites, 1 cup granulated sugar and 3 tbsps. syrup from canned pineapple; stir until sugar is partly dissolved. Place over boiling water and cook, beating constantly with rotary beater, until frosting will stand in peaks—about 7 minutes. Remove from heat and beat in ½ tsp. vanilla. Cover pan with a wet cloth and cool mixture completely. Cream ½ cup butter or margarine until very soft; add the cooled icing, a little at a time, beating with mixing spoon after each addition until frosting is blended and creamy. Take out about ¾ cup frosting and fold in 2 tbsps. well-drained finely-cut canned pineapple and ¼ cup toasted chopped Brazil nuts; put cold cakes together with this mixture. Fold ¼ cup well-drained finely-cut canned pineapple into remaining frosting and use to cover top and sides of cake. Decorate sides of cake with toasted thinly-shaved Brazil nuts or sprinkle liberally with shredded cocoanut.



A tender, juicy sirloin-tip roast is the basis of a delicious fall meal.

Good Roast Beef

*Cooking at a constant low temperature
until just done ensures good eating*

ROAST beef, with its rich brown color and tender, juicy meat, served with or without Yorkshire pudding, mashed turnips or baked onions is a meal fit for the hungriest of family or friends.

If you are buying a beef roast look for the red or blue brand mark. The meat should be dark red, the bones red at the cut ends and the fat white to cream in color. The fat should cover the meat well and streaks of it should run through the meat.

A roast may be a standing rib roast, a rolled rib roast with the bones removed and the meat tied into a roll or a cross-rib roast that comes from the front quarter next to the blade. The rump roast is found next to the round section of the hind quarter. It may be a little less tender than the rib roast but it is rich in flavor.

Store meat unwrapped, covered loosely with waxed paper. If it is to be kept for several days place it in the refrigerator, if only a few hours keep it in a cool room. Wipe the meat with a damp cloth rather than wash it. Season with salt and pepper before or after roasting.

Place the roast fat side up in an uncovered pan. If it is lean a piece of fat may be placed on top to help baste the meat as it roasts. Do not add water or cover it, for moisture gives a steamed flavor.

Roast the beef in a moderately slow oven of 325° F. to the desired degree of doneness. It is a good idea to use a meat thermometer, placing it so the tip is in the largest section of the roast. Take care not to have the point resting on a bone or a layer of fat.

If the beef is to be rare allow 20 to 25 minutes per pound of rib roast or a thermometer reading of 140° F.; for a medium roast 25 to 30 minutes per pound or a thermometer reading of 160° F. and for a well-done roast 30 to 35 minutes per pound or a thermometer reading of 170° F. For roasts with the bone out allow an extra 10 minutes per pound cooking time.

Yorkshire pudding is a favorite English accompaniment with roast beef. It is made of a thin batter similar to a popover batter, baked in the drippings from the roast and cut in squares

to be served hot with the roast. It may be baked in individual muffin tins, if desired. It is important to have the drippings, pan and oven very hot so that the batter puffs and gets crusty brown. Start the Yorkshire pudding about 40 minutes before serving time and serve it as soon as it is done.

To make the gravy pour the clear drippings from the roasting pan, leaving the brown bits in the pan. Add a cup of water to the pan and boil to loosen all the brown.

A four-pound roast makes three to four cups of gravy. Use two tablespoons of fat dripping for each cup of gravy; pour it into a skillet, add an equal amount of flour. Stir with a flat turner and cook until lightly browned. Slowly add the brown liquid from the roasting pan then add a cup of milk for each cup of gravy desired. Stir and boil about five minutes; add a teaspoon of salt and a dash of pepper.

The gravy will be smooth if the milk is added gradually. However, strain it if necessary. If it becomes too thick add a little milk. If the fat separates out stir in a tablespoon of cold water. Reheat well before serving seconds.

Pan browned potatoes are a favorite with a roast. Potatoes need a hot temperature to cook them, a roast needs a low temperature to keep it tender and juicy. Forty-five minutes before the roast is done pare and boil medium sized potatoes for 15 minutes. Place the hot potatoes in the meat drippings, roll to coat with drippings and finish cooking the potatoes with the roast. Salt lightly before serving.

Leftover roast beef is never a problem. It is good sliced cold or reheated in leftover gravy. It is equally good in combination meat dishes and casseroles of all types, in hearty salads or in hot or cold sandwiches.

Yorkshire Pudding

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------|
| 1 c. sifted flour | 2 eggs |
| 1 tsp. salt | 1 c. milk |

Combine flour and salt in 1-quart bowl. Beat eggs well, then beat in milk. Pour into flour and continue beating until batter is smooth. Pour ½ c. drippings into pan 8 by 8 inches or 6 muffin tins. Heat pan in oven. Add batter and bake in hot oven for 30 minutes. Serves 6.

Cakes by the Loaf

At tea time serve even slices of tender moist flavorful loaf cake

LOAF cakes have the best keeping qualities of any light cake for they have very little surface exposed to the air. Being compact in shape they are easy to carry to an away-from-home tea or supper.

Loaf cakes are not quite as feathery as layer cakes and so all-purpose flour is often used. If cake flour is specified in a recipe and you wish to use all-purpose reduce the amount by one-eighth cup per cup of flour.

Less feathery cakes, however, do not mean less care in the making. High quality ingredients at room temperature, accurate measurements and correct procedure are as important as in the making of the fluffiest cake.

The flour must be sifted before it is measured. The eggs need separate beating. Butter gives the best flavor to a light cake, however shortening gives as good a texture to a cake that is flavored with spices or chocolate. Either must be creamed until light and fluffy.

A cake made with two cups of flour usually requires a loaf pan four by eight inches. To prepare the pan for baking cut and fit over the bottom a heavy piece of waxed paper. Brush with butter or other fat. Fill the pan two-thirds full.

Loaf cakes are baked at not quite as high a temperature as the sheet or layer cake. An oven temperature of 325° F. is best, never more than 350° F. Bake the loaf for 45 to 60 minutes. Remove the cake from the pan five minutes after it is out of the oven. Leave it to cool on a wire rack, right side up. Frost and store the cake only after it is thoroughly cooled.

Spiced Loaf Cake

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| 2/3 c. butter | 1 tsp. cloves |
| 1 c. sugar | 1/2 c. molasses |
| 1/2 tsp. soda | 2 1/2 c. sifted flour |
| 1/4 tsp. salt | 2 eggs |
| 3/4 tsp. mace | 1/2 c. milk |
| 3/4 tsp. nutmeg | 1 c. currants |
| 1 1/2 tsp. cinnamon | 1 c. raisins |

Heat oven to 325° F. Cream butter, sugar, soda and spices well. Blend in molasses and stir in 1/2 c. sifted flour. Beat in eggs separately. Add remaining flour alternately with milk and stir in fruit. Bake 2 1/4 hours in well-greased and lightly floured loaf pan. Decorate top with nuts or sprinkle with powdered sugar. Keeps well.



Thin slices of this rich spice cake are perfect for afternoon tea.

1 2 3 4 Cake

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------|
| 1 c. butter | 4 eggs |
| 2 c. sugar | 1/2 c. milk |
| 3 c. cake flour or | 3 tsp. baking |
| 2 3/4 c. all-purpose | powder |
| flour | |

Cream butter until fluffy. Beat in sugar. Add eggs, unbeaten singly. Beat after each addition. Sift flour and baking powder. Add alternately with milk. Bake in loaf pan at 350° F. for 50 minutes.

Madiera Cake

- | | |
|----------------|---------------|
| 1 c. butter | 1/8 c. milk |
| 1 c. sugar | 1 tsp. baking |
| 5 eggs | powder |
| 2 1/4 c. flour | |

Cream butter. Add sugar and blend well. Add eggs, unbeaten singly, beating after each addition. Sift flour and baking powder. Add with milk. Bake in loaf pans at 350° F. When half done lay two thin slices citron peel on top. Keeps very well.

Half-a-Pound Cake

- | | |
|------------------|---------------|
| 1 c. butter | 1/4 tsp. salt |
| 1 c. sugar | 1 tsp. baking |
| 5 eggs | powder |
| 2 T. lemon juice | 1 tsp. nutmeg |
| 2 c. flour | |

Cream butter until fluffy, add sugar. Beat egg yolks until thick and yellow-colored. Beat egg whites until stiff. Add egg yolks and lemon juice to creamed mixture and beat thoroughly. Fold in egg whites, then sifted dry ingredients. Bake in loaf pan 9 by 6 inches at 325° F. for 1 1/4 hours. Keeps well.

Walnut Spice Cake

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| 3/4 c. shortening | 1/2 tsp. salt |
| 2 c. brown sugar | 1 tsp. baking |
| 3 eggs | powder |
| 2 3/4 c. cake flour | 1/2 tsp. baking soda |
| 1 c. sour milk | 1/2 tsp. nutmeg |
| 1 c. walnut meats | 1/2 tsp. allspice |

Cream shortening and sugar; add eggs which have been well beaten; beat well. Add sifted dry ingredients alternately with milk. Add chopped nuts. Bake in two pans 6 by 9 inches in 350° F. oven for 1 1/4 hours. Keeps well.

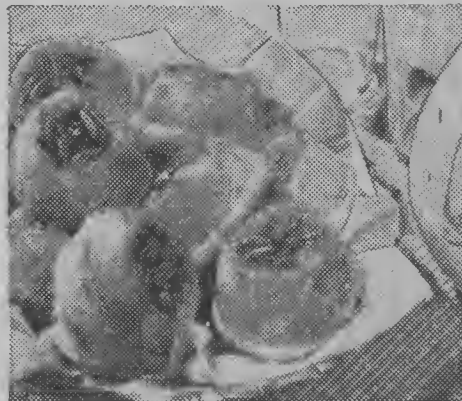
Peanut Butter Cake

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| 1/2 c. shortening | 3/8 c. milk |
| 1/2 c. peanut butter | 1 1/2 c. cake flour |
| 1 1/2 c. brown sugar | 1/2 tsp. salt |
| 2 eggs | 2 tsp. baking |
| 1 tsp. vanilla | powder |

Cream shortening, peanut butter and sugar. Beat eggs; add with vanilla and beat well. Add milk. Add sifted dry ingredients, beating thoroughly after each addition. Bake in square 8-inch pan in moderate oven for 50 minutes.

Make All Four of these thrilling oven treats with One Basic Dough!

1. Chelsea Twirls



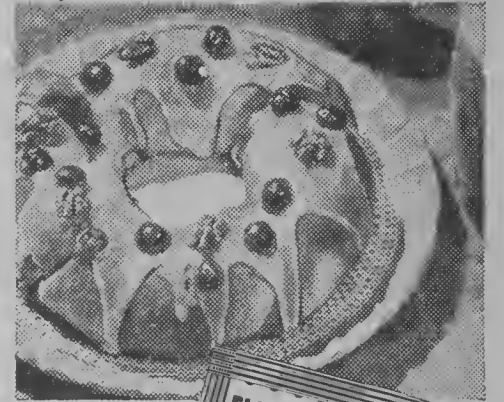
2. Orange Whirls



3. Date Eights



4. Jam Ring



Versatility begins at home — with Fast Dry Yeast!

One quick dough, thinly rolled, comes out *four* delectable dessert delights! Raised oh-h so tender n' light with amazing Fleischmann's Fast Rising Dry Yeast! When you bake at home, get festive results with Fleischmann's. Never fails. Keep a month's supply on hand.



Needs no refrigeration!

BASIC PINWHEEL DOUGH

Scold

- 1 1/2 cups milk
- 3/4 cup granulated sugar
- 2 1/4 teaspoons salt
- 3/4 cup shortening

Remove from heat and cool to lukewarm. In the meantime, measure into a large bowl 3/4 cup lukewarm water 1 tablespoon granulated sugar and stir until sugar is dissolved. Sprinkle with contents of

- 3 envelopes Fleischmann's Fast Rising Dry Yeast

Let stand 10 minutes, THEN stir well. Stir in lukewarm milk mixture and

- 3 well-beaten eggs

Stir in

- 4 1/2 cups once-sifted bread flour and beat until smooth and elastic; work in 4 1/2 cups more (about) once-sifted bread flour

Turn out on lightly-floured board and knead dough lightly until smooth and elastic. Place in a greased bowl and grease top of dough. Cover and set dough in warm place, free from draft, and let rise until doubled in bulk. Turn out dough on lightly-floured board and knead lightly until smooth. Divide into 4 equal portions and finish as follows:

1. INDIVIDUAL CHELSEA TWIRLS

Cream 1/4 cup butter or margarine and 1/3 cup brown sugar; divide into 12 greased muffin pans; add pecans. Cream 2 tbsps. butter or margarine, 2 tps. cinnamon and 1/2 cup brown sugar. Roll out one portion of dough 12 by 10 inches. Sprinkle with cinnamon mixture and 1/2 cup raisins; beginning at long side, roll up loosely; cut into 12 slices. Place in pans. Grease tops. Cover and let rise until doubled. Bake at 350°, 15 to 18 mins.

2. ORANGE WHIRLS

Boil together for 3 mins., stirring, 1/3 cup butter or margarine, 1 tbsp. grated orange rind, 1/2 cup orange juice and 3/4 cup gran. sugar; cool. Spread half in greased 8-inch square pan. Roll out one portion of dough 16 by 10 inches; spread with rest of orange mixture; beginning at long side, roll up loosely; cut into 16 slices. Arrange in pan. Grease tops. Cover and let rise until doubled. Bake at 350°, about 30 mins.

3. DATE EIGHTS

Combine 1/2 lb. cut-up dates, 1 cup water, 1/2 cup gran. sugar and 1 tbsp. butter or margarine; boil gently, stirring often, until thick; cool. Roll out one portion of dough into 12-inch square; spread half with half of filling and roll up to centre. Turn dough over; spread remainder with filling and roll up to centre. Cut into 12 slices. Place, well apart, on greased pan. Grease tops. Cover and let rise until doubled. Bake at 350°, 14 to 16 mins. Spread hot buns with icing.

4. JAM RING

Roll out one portion of dough 16 by 8 inches. Spread with 1/3 cup thick jam and 1/3 cup chopped nuts; beginning at long side, roll up loosely. Twist dough from end to end; form into ring on greased pan. Grease top. Cover and let rise until doubled. Bake at 350°, 25 to 30 mins. Spread hot ring with white icing; decorate top.

Having a party? Please everybody...

Serve

Tomato Cup Salad

with the one and only
MIRACLE WHIP

Save the 16-oz. and 32-oz. jars for canning

Serve salads often—they're nourishing, economical, and good. The dressing is important, so be sure it's Miracle Whip, the famous dressing that combines the qualities of old-fashioned boiled dressing and smooth mayonnaise. Make all your salads twice as good with matchless Miracle Whip!



TOMATO CUP SALAD

5 large peeled tomatoes	1/2 c. raw carrot slices
Lettuce	1/2 c. raw cauliflower flowerets
1/2 c. cooked string beans, cut in 1-inch pieces	Salt and pepper
1/2 c. cooked peas	Miracle Whip Salad Dressing

Cut tomatoes into 5 sections almost to stem end. Spread them slightly apart. Place each in lettuce cup and arrange on platter. Toss the vegetables together lightly. Add salt and pepper to taste. Fill centers of tomatoes with vegetables and top with Miracle Whip.

Millions prefer Miracle Whip **Made by KRAFT**

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POSTUM

P-243

Collect Old Woolens

Many articles, past wearing, can be converted into blankets

by VIOLET M. SCHEMP

AS winter approaches, the housewife brings out and sorts the winter clothing that has been stored for the few short summer months. From the supply of woolen underwear, socks and sweaters there will be a few casualties to mourn. There may be sweaters without elbows or with ravelling cuffs. No doubt there will be woolen socks, too, with heels and toes that are past mending.

The western homemaker, a past master in the art of conservation, does not give up easily. When possible she knits new feet into the socks that are still good. She ravel out the cuffs on short or worn sleeves, replaces them with new yarn in a matching or contrasting shade. She even remodels father's worn-out underwear into a smaller version for junior or into extra liner mitts and short socks to be worn under rubber boots.

There still remains the shrunken woolens, matted beyond use, left-over unravelled yarns, the cuttings from the made-over underwear. Gather these up neatly, cut off the cotton bindings, buttons and pockets and pack them into a box for sending to the woolen mills. There they can be re woven into blankets.

This service is really a life saver for women like myself who would rather keep a garment for years in case it might come in handy than be guilty of throwing away a useful article.

Old woolen sweaters which have matted from numerous washings, the remains of the children's hose, old mittens, moth-invaded woolens — all

are acceptable for blanket making. Old wool skirts and jackets, threadbare blankets and other woven woolen materials may be added to the collection. For although the cost of making the blankets is less with knitted wools it is still worthwhile sending in the woven woolen material, too.

Most companies offer a good choice with several qualities of blankets from which to choose, at least three sizes—crib, medium or large, and each with or without satin binding. Some companies also feature knitting yarn, wool comforters, scatter rugs, men's socks and convoy coats. Check your catalog for a statement of the number of pounds of wool of either type that is required and for charge of making the article.

Preparations for shipping are simple. The fabric must be clean. Remove all buttons, cotton bindings or linings, zippers, buttonholes, collars, cuffs and pockets, all of which add to the shipping weight and are not usable. A sack is best for shipping as it weighs less than a carton. As the freight charges will be less per pound on a large shipment, a neighborhood shipment with orders from a group will save everyone money. Pack the woolens into the sack and enclose your name and address. Put in a statement of the amount of material you are sending and include the order for the number of blankets you want, giving color, size and price.

If you begin now to save all the odds and ends of woolens, come spring you should have enough for a blanket or two.

The Countrywoman

Continued from page 71

W.I. of England and Wales at their annual meeting in Albert Hall, London, attended an executive meeting; went to Paris to attend a non-governmental organizations consultative meeting in regard to UNESCO and concluded her trip with a visit to Canada to attend the F.W.I.C. and a provincial meeting in Quebec.

In 1952 the regional conferences of various African associations provided the opportunity to meet many of the leading women in Nairobi, Kenya and to visit societies in that colony as well as in the states of Northern and Southern Rhodesia and South Africa. Mrs. Sayre reported: "During my stay in each country schedules were arranged for meetings in various districts where I spoke to members who had often come from great distances. Here, as in other countries, it was my privilege to be entertained in homes of members, to see something of their farms and cities and to understand something of their problems. Broadcasting explaining the aims and activities of A.C.W.W. was a regular part of each visit as well as numerous interviews with the press."

"On this trip I also visited, on my own, India and Pakistan, Lebanon and Egypt. It was my pleasure while in India to contact our members there and to see and learn something of the

welfare work being done by women's groups. It was my privilege while in Pakistan to meet members of the All Pakistan Women's Association in Karachi and to welcome them as new members in the A.C.W.W."

"One is impressed by the fact that, without exception, these groups are dedicated to the idea of working together to improve life for the homes and families of their communities. Strange as it may seem, the pattern of local programs, built around this idea does not change appreciably from country to country. The significance of the work of these small branches and clubs in our movement is that they attack the world problems from their own doorsteps. They begin where they are and with what they have. I wish that each of you might have been with me to see the immense amount of 'community housekeeping' that is being done by our societies."

To serve food attractively is almost as important as cooking food well. Carelessly served food looks unappetizing—and usually is.

* * *

A little grated cheddar cheese on top of hot cream soup is extremely good. For a stronger flavor crumble a little blue cheese on top.

* * *

A beet relish to serve with roast pork is made simply by mixing diced canned beets with horseradish to taste, then moistened with a little vinegar.

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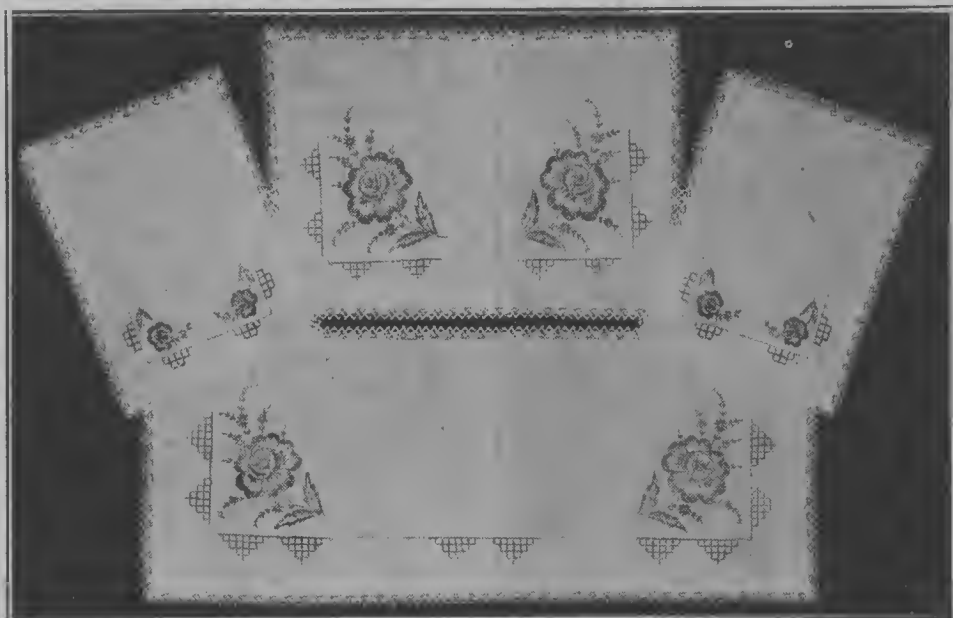
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Articles designed for decorative touches about the house

by FLORENCE WEBB



Popular rose and lattice design

Design No. 877A

These pretty and practical pieces match the luncheon set we featured recently. The chesterfield set includes the 40 by 15-inch back and two 12 by 15-inch arm rests. The chair set includes the 24 by 15-inch back and two 12 by 15-inch arm rests. However, if you have the kind of chesterfield that is divided in the center and requires two smaller back rests you may order design No. 877A which includes two pieces for the back each measuring 24 by 15 inches and the two arm pieces, each measuring 12 by 15 inches. All are stamped, ready to embroider, on best-quality white Irish

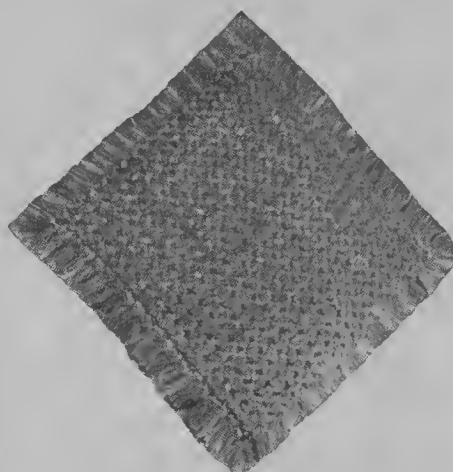
embroidery linen. Instructions are included and threads are available.

For the various items bearing the rose and lattice you may make a choice from the following: 3-piece chair set is No. 876, price \$1.85, threads 25 cents; 3-piece chesterfield set is No. 877, price \$2.15, threads 30 cents; 4-piece chesterfield set is No. 877A, price \$2.15, threads 40 cents.

Matching luncheon sets: 45 by 45-inch luncheon cloth and four 12-inch serviettes are Design No. 875A, price \$3.00, threads 45 cents; 54 by 45-inch luncheon cloth and four 12-inch serviettes are Design No. 875B, price \$3.50, threads 45 cents.

A Bun Cushion

Remember those soft, cozy cushions grandmother used to keep in her easy chairs and on the sofa? Ever wish you knew how they were made or where you could get one? Remember how some of them had tiny buns while others had much larger ones? Ever try to find out how they were put together? Actually, it is quite easy... once you know how. And that is exactly what we tell you in our Pattern No. S-125. Price 25 cents.



Design No. S-125

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You will want more than one pair of these pretty towels. We send you sufficient linen to make a pair of towels each about 14 by 24 inches (finished). The edges of the linen are cut "on the thread" so that you can readily pull the threads for the simple hemstitching of each end. The crochet lace is overcast to the finished towels. Instructions for the lace, the linen for one pair of towels and directions for hemstitching and finishing are No. C-102. Price \$1.00.

Note correct number and price.

Address orders to The Country Guide Needlework Department, 290 Vaughan Street, Winnipeg.



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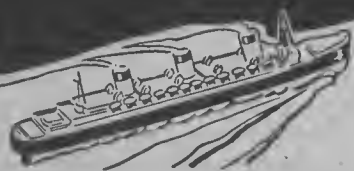
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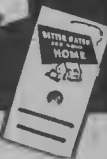


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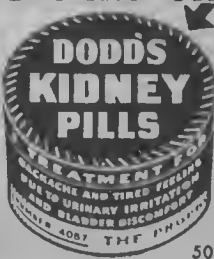
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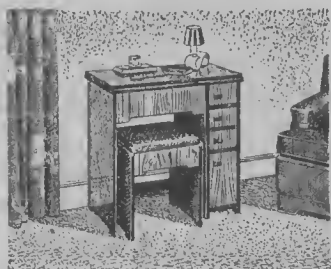
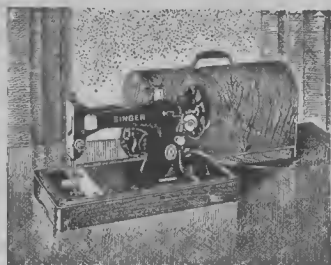
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Text Books

Continued from page 72

secretary, who in turn forwards them to the Text Book Branch. A student who transfers to another school district during a school year, turns in his books and receives a transfer form, which he will hand to the new principal, who will see that he is furnished with the books necessary for his grade. A student who leaves British Columbia during a school year, after filling in a refund card, will receive a refund of money paid, in proportion to the remaining portion of the year.

At the close of the school year all rented books are turned in to the teacher in charge. Those which are badly worn are destroyed and those which are considered to be in a condition to stand another year's wear are put away to be used in the next term. The teacher makes an estimate of the number of new books which will be required for the coming year. These estimates are sent out in time to assure an adequate supply for the beginning of the new term.

A student pays for any books which are lost or wilfully destroyed. Consideration is given to the condition of the book when he received it, whether it was new or previously used. The amount paid for replacement is decided by the teacher.

Formerly all working materials such as scribblers, pencils, etc., used in the first eight grades were supplied free by the Department of Education. This practice was discontinued as it was considered to lead to extravagance. Our stores carry a good supply and we never have any trouble in getting the necessary materials.

High school students now use zipper note books and key tabs. The key tabs are simply books made of loose leaf paper, with a cover similar to an old-fashioned scribbler. They enable a student to keep subjects separated and overcome the difficulty of the perforations tearing out. They are more satisfactory than the loose paper, which was used in zipper books a few years ago.

This system of handling text books has been in use in the province for the past five years. There are few complaints, and those made come chiefly from the type who adopt the attitude "Whatever it is, I'm agin it." Our school district was one of the first larger school units in western Canada and its working has been generally satisfactory. Complaints made, have not been of a serious nature—and they get fewer and farther between, as the years go by.

Use for Plastic Bags

DON'T throw away those plastic bags in which grocers are now packaging their fruits. They serve a two-fold purpose; first, they keep the food sanitary, and secondly, they make useful containers when empty.

If you're going for a drive, dampen several face cloths and tuck them in one of these containers. When you stop for an ice cream cone sticky hands won't be a problem.

Reserve one when you take baby visiting. Soiled diapers are easily disposed of with no muss or fuss.

During the summer months when picnics are popular, you will find

these plastic bags handy. Fill several with ice cubes, tie up with stout cord and pack around your soft drinks. If the ice does melt the water can't escape to ruin your other food. Salads can be stored in these bags too, eliminating the large salad bowl that always takes up so much room.

A friend of mine has a novel use for these bags. She keeps her hats in them! They are lined up in a neat row on her closet shelf, protected from dust, yet visible, and very handy if she needs a hat in a hurry.

These are only a few uses for plastic fruit bags. Doubtless, you will have others of your own. They have a wide variety of uses.—Gloria M. Logan.

Useful Hints

by DORIS COLEMAN

If you wish to direct a drop of oil into any tight spot to be oiled, start a drop from the oil can on a wire. It will roll down the wire right where it's supposed to go and not flow over other parts of the mechanism.

* * *

When a wire coil snaps in some heating element, either hot plate, heater, toaster or iron, try hooking broken ends together, turn on juice and drop a bit of powdered borax on point. Borax often acts as a flux to weld the ends together for an emergency.

* * *

"File for bits." Small taps and drill bits can be conveniently filed in a section of corrugated cardboard to prevent possible rust, oil the bits before inserting them, point first. One edge of the cardboard may be taped to keep the bits from sliding through. The corrugated cardboard will protect the bits from dulling contact with other tools.

* * *

Large safety pins are handy for keeping nuts, washers, screw eyes and other small parts handy. This is also very handy for various sizes of buttons. Thread them onto a safety pin point or wire ring and hang near your work bench. For buttons, keep in your mending basket or machine drawer.

* * *

After you oil your electric fan, slip a large paper bag over the blade guard. Turn the fan on and let it run a few minutes before removing the bag. Otherwise it is likely to spatter walls, furniture and draperies with drops of oil.

* * *

Black marks will come off your hardwood floors if you apply a little of "Wright's silver cream" on a cloth and rub briskly. It will entirely disappear. Wright's silver cream also makes a wonderful wallpaper cleaner.

* * *

To keep your luggage looking nice, wipe the case with mild soap and water and then rinse and dry thoroughly. Then apply wax and polish briskly. It preserves the finish.

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To renew dry typewriter ribbon, grease the inside of the typewriter ribbon box heavily with glycerine and place the ribbon in the box and let stand for a week. The glycerine renews the ink in the ribbon.

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No. 4458—Saddle stitching adds distinction to this dress with its six-gore skirt, side pockets and short or three-quarter sleeves. Sizes 14½, 16½, 18½, 20½, 22½ and 24½ (33 to 43-inch bust). Size 18½ requires 3¾ yards 39-inch material. Price 35 cents.

No. 4226—Choose tweed for dress with easy-fitting, slim skirt and tailored bodice. Collarless jacket has velvet cuffs to match dress collar. Sizes 12½, 14½, 16½, 18½, 20½ and 22½ (bust sizes 31 to 41 inches). Size 16½ dress and jacket requires 4½ yards 39-inch, 3¼ yards 54-inch material. Price 35 cents.

No. 4284—Pointed collar and cuffs, partial front opening and flared skirt with side pockets make a popular half-size dress. Sizes 12½, 14½, 16½, 18½, 20½, 22½ and 24½ (31 to 43-inch bust). Size 16½ requires 3¾ yards 39-inch material. Price 35 cents.

No. 4282—Vary the neckline of this "jiffy" dress with a striped V collar, a dickey or saddle stitching. Sizes 12½, 14½, 16½, 18½, 20½, 22½ and 24½ (31 to 43-inch bust). Size 16½ requires 3¼ yards 39-inch material. Price 35 cents.

No. 3878—This simple-to-make dress has been tested and approved for housework by housewives. It has a bias under-arm insert that lets you reach or stretch yet fits the body when relaxed. Sizes 12½, 14½, 16½, 18½, 20½, 22½ and 24½ (31 to 43-inch bust). Size 16½ requires 3¾ yards 39-inch material. Price 35 cents.

No. 4260—Same as above dress No. 3878 for the taller woman in women's sizes 12, 14, 16, 18 and 20 years; 40, 42, 44 and 46-inch bust. Size 18 requires 3½ yards 39-inch material. Price 35 cents.

No. 3945—This easy-to-get-into wrap-around dress closes in the back; will not come open as you work. Stand-up collar or collarless, trimmed with braid. Sizes 12½, 14½, 16½, 18½, 20½, 22½ and 24½ (31 to 43-inch bust). Size 16½ requires 4 yards 39-inch material. Price 35 cents.

No. 4407—This child's jumper buttons to the waist at the back; the flare skirt is gathered to the bodice. The blouse buttons down the front. Sizes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 years. Size 3 blouse requires ¾ yard, jumper 1½ yards 39-inch material. Price 35 cents.

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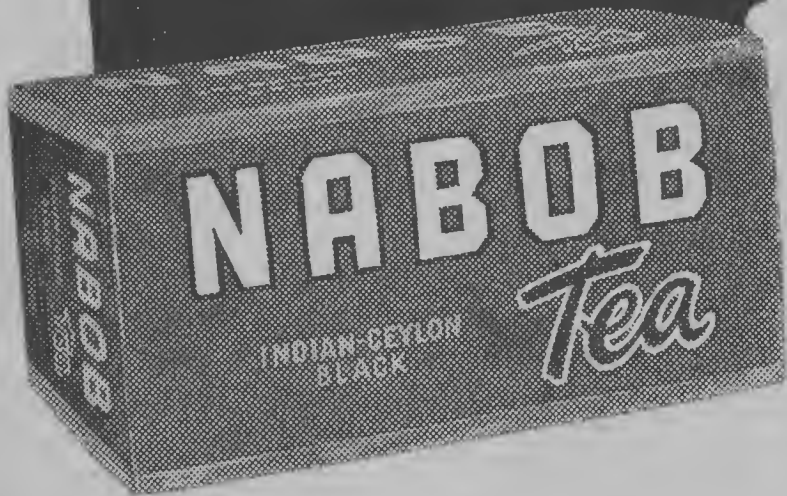
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A Look at The Wheat Situation

Continued from page 7

TURNING now to the demand and market situation, the important factors are these:

1. World trade during the past two years has been unusually heavy and some wheat is still held by importing countries. Britain; for example, is known to have large stocks held by the government. Other countries, such as those already mentioned, and not associated with IWA, have some surplus wheat this year to offer. Add to these circumstances the favorable crop year in most countries and it is understandable that the export wheat trade from North America may not be very brisk until toward the New Year.

2. Over the last 31-year period, U.S. wheat exports have been much more erratic than those of Canada. For the eight years after 1921 she exported an average of 155 million bushels per year. For the next 15 years, her average was 40 million bushels per year, or less. For the last eight years, however, she has exported in excess of 400 million bushels per year.

Until recently, Canada normally supplied from 35 to 40 per cent of the wheat entering into world trade. Our exports have been fairly consistent. For the eight years after 1921, we exported 295 million bushels per year. For the next 15 years we averaged 223 million bushels per year; and for the last eight years, we have averaged 277 million bushels.

During 1952-53 Canada exported 385 million bushels (our second highest year) and the United States, 316 million bushels. For the current year, Washington estimates an export of perhaps 265 million bushels; and Canada's export may well drop below 300 million bushels.

3. Perhaps the most discussed market factor has been Britain's withdrawal from the International Wheat Agreement, rather than accept the \$2.05 maximum price. Her reasons for withdrawing have never been officially outlined, to our knowledge, but the London Times suggests that Britain's critics may not have given sufficient consideration to two points: "First, that the United Kingdom's participation would have reduced the free market to such narrow limits that, psychologically, as well as in practical market terms, the pressure for the maximum to become also the minimum would have been almost irresistible." The second point is: "that a moral stand was made by the United Kingdom's implied refusal to condone the United States farm price support policy, which effectively maintains the American export price at an unjustifiably high level." The Times then asks this question: "... Is the United States government going to continue to use public money indefinitely to prevent American wheat being sold abroad, except at the price, which, in view of important consuming countries, is decisively too high, and which is certainly much higher than it would be in a genuine free market?"

4. Britain has very recently decontrolled the grain trade after 14 years of bulk purchase by the Ministry of Food. The government will turn over 150,000 tons of its wheat stocks each month to the private trade, at prices

based on the world market at the time of sale. Otherwise, British millers must carry their transfer stocks, and any new purchases they make, entirely at their own risk. The Economist said recently: "The size of their stocks ... could permit them to postpone new purchases for about two months; given the present uncertainty about wheat prices, they are likely to be extremely cautious buyers thereafter."

Wheat costs Britain more than any other imported product, and the government has therefore suggested to the trade that it would be well not to import wheat too generously. They have also suggested that while soft home-grown wheat is less suitable for breadmaking than the hard imported wheat, it is in the national interest to continue to use nearly as much British wheat as in recent years. The national loaf is still subsidized, and its price controlled, though for the first time in 12 years, white bread appeared in Britain on August 31.

It is worth noting here that most of the world's trading in wheat since World War II has been state trading, and the remainder controlled private trading. Even in Canada we have had state trading, to the extent that the members of the Canadian Wheat Board are appointed by the federal government, and the board is responsible to the government for policy. Whether other countries will follow Britain's lead in returning the grain trade to private interests, remains to be seen.

5. There is more than a possibility at this writing, that Australia may not be able to sign the International Wheat Agreement. She requested an extension in time in July, because the Commonwealth Parliament would not meet until October. Meanwhile, efforts to secure unanimity among the various states on the subject of domestic wheat prices, appear to have broken down, with Victoria and Queensland standing out from the other four states. Unless Victoria at least can be brought into agreement there seems little likelihood that the Australian Wheat Board can continue to operate. This would mean Australia's forced withdrawal from the IWA.

6. Under such circumstances, Canada would be standing virtually alone between Britain and the United States. Britain is the world's largest importer of wheat and Canada's best wheat customer, with whom we are closely associated politically. The United States, on the other hand, is a next-door neighbor, who is our best cash customer, as we in turn are her best cash customer. We do not want to lose the British market for wheat: neither do we wish to enter a race with our neighbor as to which can sell the most wheat at the lowest price.

7. Canada, however, is much more dependent on wheat as a part of our national economy, than is the United States. Therefore, we are very much concerned about the methods the United States may use for disposing of her large surplus.

Presently, the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture is considering the report of a special wheat committee which he set up to determine how best to handle the wheat surplus problem. This committee has recommended a two-price system, involving 100 per cent of parity to the grower, for that share of his production which represents his quota of total domestic consumption,

and the disposal of the remainder of the U.S. crop on the world market, at free prices. Canada, naturally does not look on this proposal with favor, and there is evidence that within the United States it is not welcomed everywhere.

8. Reference should be made here, perhaps, to criticisms that our surplus problem has been created by our method of selling through the Canadian Wheat Board and the International Wheat Agreement. Unfortunately for this criticism, the same critics have for years been suggesting that Wheat Board prices have been too low. It must be evident that surpluses are not created by selling at too low a price. On the other hand, if the Board had been able, or willing, to sell at the higher prices suggested as possible by the critics, prices would have been substantially higher than they are now. Farmers would have

not surprise producers if the Canadian Wheat Board enforces quotas very strictly. This would mean that if an individual producer is charged with a violation of the quota regulations, all patrons of elevators at that shipping point might be inconvenienced, if it were necessary to hold up all shipments from that point until the charge was investigated.

UNDER all of these circumstances and in view of Canada's unusual position, it would be disastrous if producers or their organizations became panicky. We have had plenty of wheat before, and we have got rid of it. We have never before had three 500-million-bushel crops in a row, and we are most unlikely to have a fourth one.

The Rt. Hon. C. D. Howe, Minister of Trade and Commerce, referring to the wheat situation a short time ago, said: "This lull in demand applies to

all exporting countries and not only to Canada. We are doing at least as well as our competitors.

"Looking ahead I am optimistic about Canada's future as a producer and exporter of grain. . . . With some hustling, I think we can continue to find considerably larger foreign markets than in prewar years."

It is important that producers and farm organizations refrain from hampering the work of the Canadian Wheat Board, by intemperate criticism, or unjustifiable demands. The Board has a good record. Its function is to secure the best return it can for the wheat grower from the sale of wheat. It cannot fulfill this function unless it is free to use its own best judgment.

It may take considerable time to work ourselves out of a situation for which Canada is only incidentally responsible. Meanwhile, we know that we can produce wheat as cheaply as any country anywhere. We know that our wheat, if not the best, is equal to the best in the world. We also know that our system of grading and handling our wheat is second to none; and that our system of pooling prices through the Wheat Board assures an equally fair deal to all producers. We likewise know that the international wheat trade will take hundreds of million bushels of wheat each year, and that the bulk of it normally is supplied from North America. Finally, we know that our governments, both federal and provincial, as well as all thinking people in Canadian industry, recognize the importance of wheat in the Canadian economy. With these assurances we must cultivate patience and wait the situation out. ✓

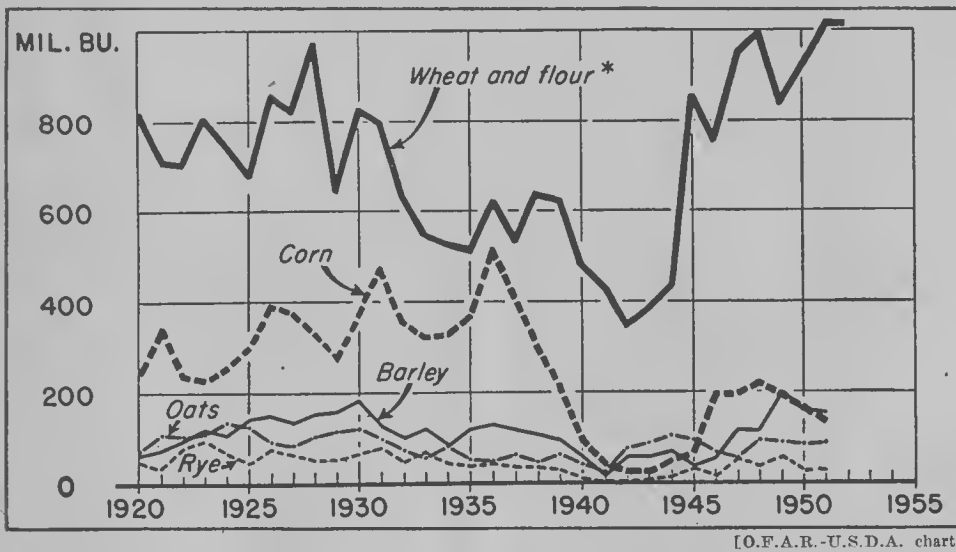


Chart shows the dominant position of wheat in the world grain trade, and the wide variation from year to year in the volume of exports.

obtained a larger return per acre and wheat acreage in Canada would have gone higher than it is. Under such circumstances our present surplus problem would have been bigger than it is. There is little reason to believe that marketing methods have been responsible for such surplus problems as we have, unless we are prepared to agree that wheat prices have been too high all along.

WHILE all of these factors are operating in a world wheat situation, Canada is taking off the second of two record crops. The pipeline is filled with wheat to both coasts, and to Churchill. In view of the supplies available, importing countries are naturally waiting until they need wheat, before they buy it. Also, because they do not need much wheat for the time being, they are inclined to wait and let someone else test the market. Export sales, therefore, have been lighter than usual.

Neither our country nor our terminal elevator systems were designed to handle two 600-million-bushel crops in a row, especially when these followed a large crop which was tough and damp, and a previous crop which was heavily frosted. Consequently, except for a minimum of 500 bushels of wheat, oats, barley and rye, delivery quotas necessarily have been continued and restricted, except on Durum wheat and flaxseed. Indeed, because of elevator congestion, many prairie wheat growers have been unable to deliver any wheat whatever. It is clear, therefore, that storage will have to be provided on farms this year for many million bushels of wheat.

Under these conditions it should

Science and The Farm

Since 1941, thousands of cattle in the United States have died, and in addition there has been serious loss of meat, milk and other products, as the result of "X-disease" or hyperkeratosis. This disease hardens the skin of infected cattle and shrivels them. Research workers at the Tennessee State Experimental Station have now identified the cause of X-disease as compounds of chlorinated naphthalene. Such compounds are sometimes found in wood preservatives and there is some evidence that they may be found in some livestock feeds sold in U.S. cattle areas, and in a petroleum lubricant. ✓

Molasses attracts house flies in a new type of insecticide. Molasses is mixed with arsenite or arsenate of soda, or with sodium fluoroacetate. These new insecticides, using either blackstrap molasses or brewer's malt, along with powerful poisons, were developed to control flies that have become resistant to DDT. It is reported that in one Florida region, house flies that infested the dairies had become so resistant to insecticides of the DDT type that it was almost impossible to control them. The new insecticides are really chemical baits originally placed in open pans on dairy floors, with wire covers on them to keep animals from eating the

Molasses for insecticides—paper snow fences — 'X' Disease — horseradish

poison. In three weeks, more than 90 per cent of the flies had been killed in all experimental dairies, with 49 to 88 per cent control in the first 24 hours. The new chemical baits are not yet ready for distribution. ✓

In Michigan, paper snow fences were as successful as regular wooden slat fences, according to the experience of the Michigan State Highway Department. Only 300 feet of a five-mile fence were damaged by April, 1952, after the fence had stood out since the fall of 1951. Meanwhile, there had been bad sleet storms, heavy rains, high winds and deep snows. Even this damage was attributed mostly to stray cattle and children. Most of the fence could be re-used. It consisted of two 12-inch strips of waterproof paper similar to that used in curing concrete, which was stapled to pieces of wood, wired to steel posts eight feet apart. ✓

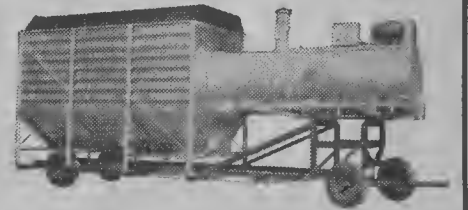
What really gives the kick to horseradish and mustard seed is a chemical called allyl isothiocyanate. Some horseradish manufacturers add this chemical to ground-up parsnips to make them taste like horseradish. The reason: the parsnips cost about ten cents a pound and the horseradish about 60 cents a pound. Scientists are able to spot the adulteration by the infra-red spectrum of the parsnips. ✓

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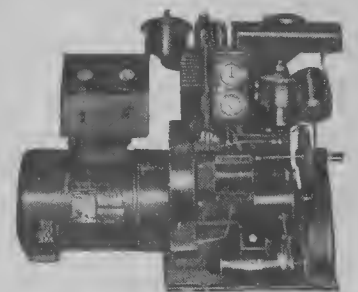
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Five Little Pigs Went to Market

Pig rearing experience for students in vocational agriculture—and the teacher—at the Red Deer Composite High School

by FRANK JACOBS

THE little pigs were sick. Crowded together and shivering convulsively, they made me wonder if, after all, we might have been much wiser not to have paid \$12 each for them. Perhaps we should have been less zealous in promoting research, and a little more cautious with our money. The straw was blackened with a bloody diarrhea—and pigs die quickly once they sicken. It wasn't going to do any good to worry about them. They needed quick treatment if we were either to advance the cause of science, or retrieve our money.

It was January, 1951, that the experiment began. Students in vocational agriculture at the Red Deer Composite High School bought the pigs. The Red Deer Divisional School Board advanced the feed and Dr. Ross Walton, Red Deer veterinarian, donated a can of A.P.F. fortified with antibiotics. At that time feed dealers were just beginning to talk A.P.F. in

alive. Something was needed to control the bacteria, which were causing the bloody scours. Of all the sulfas, sulfaguanadine is particularly useful in combatting intestinal infections, because it is not readily absorbed into the blood stream from the digestive tract, but follows along in the intestine right to the seat of the infection. We bought some sulfaguanadine.

For pigs of this size (32 pounds), a tablet the size of a little fingernail (30 grains), given twice a day, would be a normal dose, but the disease was so bad we gave the dose every four hours. A level teaspoonful of A.P.F., which was about a thousand times greater than the normal feeding rate, was given along with the sulfa. The A.P.F., loaded with penicillin and aureomycin, would, we hoped, help the sulfa knock out the bacteria. We were right.

Overnight the scouring stopped. Within 24 hours the pigs began to eat.



These are five little pigs—same school, same idea, but different pigs.

hog rations and my students were anxious to see what it could do. The weather was running from 15 to 40 below, and our bunch of five weanlings, bought at a public sales yard, were obviously the remaining survivors of three different litters. Apparently the owner had shoved them onto the market before any more died.

The pigs, although cold and wet when we bought them, were not sick, but within 36 hours three had developed black scours—a disease traceable in most cases to public sales yards. With the intestinal infection there developed a sympathetic bronchial disorder and in two days' time it appeared we'd have two live pigs—the healthy ones had been isolated—instead of five. The sickest one, a little runty red gilt with a long tail, would no longer drink warm milk.

WE had originally planned to feed A.P.F. in recommended amounts, but with the development of the sickness we changed our plans. The first requirement was to keep the pigs

To dose them we had mixed the medicine with warm milk and spooned it down, but as soon as the pigs could eat we mixed it with the feed. The sulfa was fed to two pigs for another day, and to the little red gilt for three days. After the first day we extended the time between doses to eight hours. In a few days the pigs were eating like happy, healthy pigs should.

Once the disease was over we reduced our A.P.F. level to one teaspoonful per feeding, for the five pigs. A week later we again reduced it to one teaspoonful per day, for the bunch. This was still far higher than recommended, but our main concern at the time was not protein utilization, for which A.P.F. is designed, but the prevention and control of infection. From the third week on, we quickly reduced the A.P.F. to one-quarter pound per 500 pounds of feed.

Before the days of sulfas and antibiotics such as aureomycin and penicillin, and A.P.F., pigs that contracted black scours usually died. If they did

recover, their gains were slow and unprofitable. The old treatment involved the most rigid sanitation, combined with the feeding of oats soaked in lye. Black scours had always meant heavy losses both in pigs and money. We were anxious to see how our sick ones would do. The students worked out the nutritional requirements in class, and fed the pigs until they were sold.

THE two that never had been sick gained fantastically fast and were sold on May 25, just four months to the day after buying them, weighing 215 pounds, and dressing out at 162. The average gain made by this pair was just over a pound and a half per day, but for a while they gained nearly two-and-a-half pounds per day, and during the first three weeks they had doubled their weight. Two of the sick ones made creditable gains. One was sold June 8 weighing 210 pounds and dressing 156. The other was sold June 29, the end of the school year, at a weight of 180, and dressed 140.

The little red gilt developed a chronic snuffle and sneeze and had difficulty eating. To fill her cup of misery, she acquired a string of boils extending around her throat from ear to ear. At the end of the first month she was six pounds lighter than when we bought her. In another month she had regained lost ground and was a little heavier. From then on she gained steadily until June 29 when we sold her—now 100 pounds heavier—at the same sale yards, for \$24.

After we paid our bills we found we had a profit of \$70 in cash, quite a bit more knowledge of pigs, and the satisfaction of having tackled and overcome a tough problem.

Wheat Research Foundation

IN Oklahoma there is an Oklahoma Wheat Research Foundation, which recently turned over \$50,000 to the Oklahoma Experimental Station as a contribution to a greenhouse to be used in cereal research. The Foundation represents certified wheat growers, two grain elevator associations, the flour millers, and the three leading farm organizations in the state.

The contribution of the Foundation was secured through a one-mill-per-bushel voluntary contribution from the 1953 wheat crop, plus \$1,000 from the Oklahoma Crop Improvement Association.



Emmanuel Hahn, Canadian sculptor, completes clay model of the Silver Plow, Canadian champion tractor plowing trophy at the International Plowing Match held at Cobourg, Ont., this month. (Donor: Imperial Oil.)

WHAT'S NEW

To assist readers of *The Country Guide* to keep in touch with new developments in the farm machinery and equipment field, this column will call attention from time to time, to some of the new items that are on the market.—Editors.

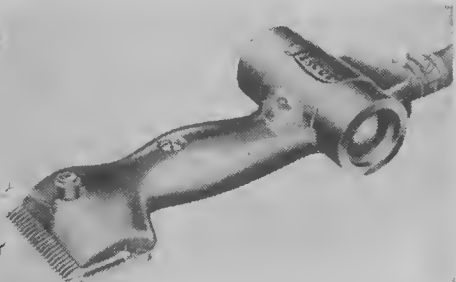
manufacturer to take power from a four-unit milking machine. The manufacturer claims, with adequate power, 1,200 shearing cuts per minute in thickest and most matted hair. (Distributors: Canadian Lister-Blackstone Ltd., 1510 Drummond St., Montreal.)



A new No. 17 tractor-drawn manure spreader with 77-bushel capacity is designed to handle very tough manure. Replacable, reinforced widespread plates to spread evenly over seven feet. Said to be controlled entirely from the driver's seat. (Manufacturer: The Oliver Corporation, Regina.)



A fold-over disk harrow provides two harrows in one, for use either as a tandem disk harrow, or bush and bog harrow, says the manufacturer. Cutting width is six feet. Harrow is lifted, lowered and working depth regulated by hydraulic touch control. Said to work well in trash or under difficult penetration conditions, such as breaking sod. (Ford Tractor and Equipment Company, Toronto.)



A new vacuum clipper for horses and cattle is designed by a British

F. and M. In Britain

Foot-and-mouth disease is a constant danger to British livestock and is endemic in Europe

by R. S. NAISMITH

IT is now over a year since Britain had its bad bout of foot-and-mouth disease. And it is several months since Canada lifted the ban on imported cattle from Britain. The lifting of this ban meant, of course, that cattle purchased at the 1952 sales could now be imported—some of them even had calves by this time, and no doubt a few Scotsmen were sorry to see two cattle go for the price of one. But everyone was glad when the disease abated and the ban was lifted. You will recall that on February 25, 1952, in Canada, an outbreak was discovered in Saskatchewan, thought to have been caused by a human carrier. This resulted in 33 herds being affected and the slaughter of over a thousand cattle by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. On August 19, 1952, Canada was officially declared free by Mr. J. G. Gardiner, the Minister of Agriculture. Altogether 1,343 cattle, 294 pigs and 97 sheep were slaughtered.

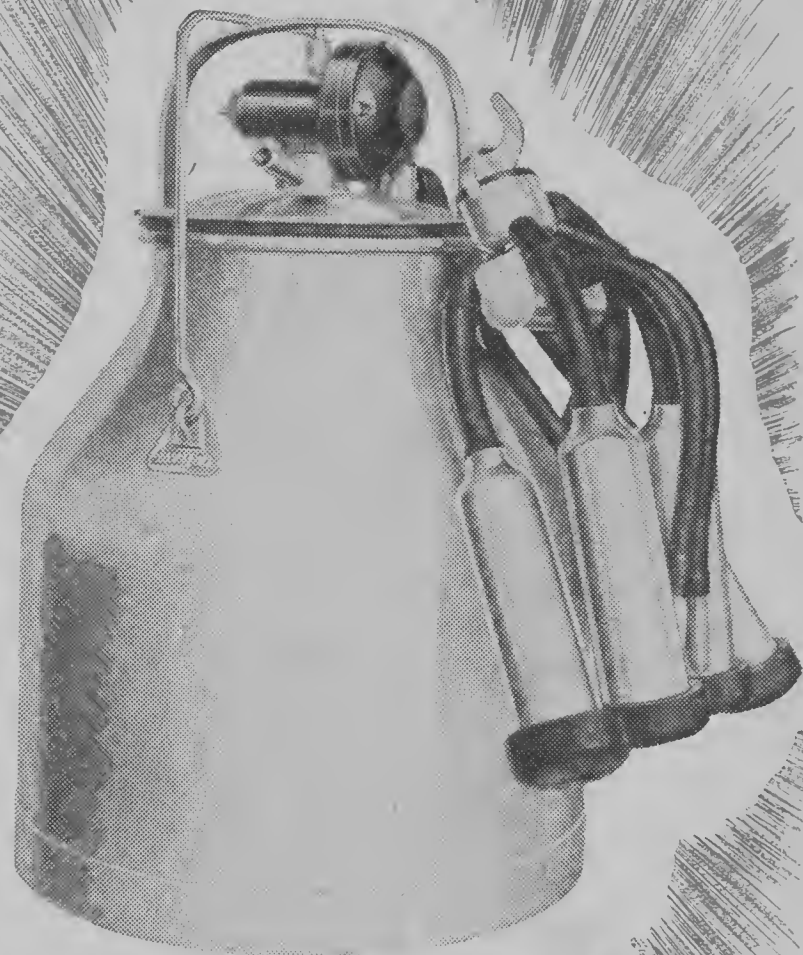
In Britain, from November 1951 to July 1952, there were 535 outbreaks of the disease affecting 32,306 cattle, 26,694 sheep, 11,295 pigs and 57 goats. These were all slaughtered, and compensation paid to the tune of

£2,382,759. So the British livestock industry suffered quite a blow, and at first it was thought that cattle would have to be imported to replace those slaughtered. This was not necessary, however, and gradually the affected



Hugh C. Hunt, recently appointed secretary, Canadian Ayrshire Breeders' Association.

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farms have built up again to full strength.

Farmers were helped, to a certain extent, by a tax relief in the 1953 budget. Compensation received for adult stock was not regarded as profit and this was quite a help: But, for some reason, the compensation received for slaughter of young stock was regarded as profit, and one year's profit at that. This meant that many farmers were paying surtax, whereas, if this alleged profit had been spread over three years, only normal tax would have been paid. The Farmers' Union made strong representation to the government regarding this hardship—since it was on government instruction that their herds were slaughtered anyway—but without any result so far.

The restocking of affected farms had one bright side. This was that many farmers took the opportunity of restocking with tuberculin-tested animals. In the county of Cheshire, where 90 herds were slaughtered, only 30 held T.T. licenses. Now, 60 of these herds hold T.T. licenses, and the proportion is increasing rapidly. Since there is, in Britain at present, a drive to eradicate tuberculosis from all cattle in the country, this was quite a step in the right direction.

IN France the position was very serious. The 1952 outbreak, estimated to be affecting one-fifteenth of all the cattle, cost the country one hundred million pounds. Three million pounds of this was the cost of vaccinating in-contact cattle and the remainder was accounted for in loans to farmers who had suffered, and in loss of meat and milk. In some cases, farmers were exempted from taxation. Milk production was halved over the whole country. The position of farmers with only one or two animals was very serious, especially if they had oxen which were used for plowing or harvesting. These farmers were unable to harvest their crops while their animals were sick.

France is subject to serious, quick-spreading epidemics, and regards the slaughter policy, in view of this, as uneconomic. Instead, the policy of vaccination is adopted. There are several types of the virus of foot-and-mouth, notably A, O and C and subsidiaries. For complete immunity an animal must be protected from all three, and vaccination must be carried out once a year.

One reason for the rapid spread of the 1952 outbreak was that routine vaccination had not been carried out—partly due to cost. One dose costs roughly \$1.00; therefore, each animal must have a \$3.00 injection (to cover the three main types) each year. This is exclusive of veterinary charges. Vaccination can amount, therefore, to quite a sum, even in a small herd, if the farmer has to bear the cost himself. Another reason was that although serum was rapidly imported from Switzerland, Germany and Holland, when the outbreak started, and French production rose fourfold, a new virus made its appearance, against which the serum was useless.

It would, therefore, appear that vaccination has its drawbacks and, in some cases, is of little use in controlling an outbreak. From the cost angle it is hoped shortly to produce a new

vaccine from the tongues of healthy cattle. It is estimated that production costs will be cut by 90 per cent.

IN Austria, where 2,410 farms were affected on April 2, 1952, the policy of giving serum to affected animals was carried out. In-contact animals were vaccinated and infected farms were rapidly isolated. Wild birds and animals, including sparrows, starlings, foxes, weasels, stoats, martens, rats and mice were systematically destroyed. Dogs, cats and poultry were segregated. Provisions were brought to the area by special vans which were disinfected when they left. Grain leaving the area was similarly disinfected. This quarantine continued till the area had no further outbreaks for eight weeks.

The disease is continually simmering on the continent of Europe which loses some \$400 million every few years. Few countries in which the foot-and-mouth disease is endemic, could afford the financial burden of the complete slaughter policy. Therefore, since the virus multiplies only in infected animals, slaughter of affected and in-contact animals is the only policy for areas usually free from the disease. This slaughter policy is carried out in Canada, United States, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland and Great Britain. In Britain, for example, a policy of vaccination would be impracticable since the type of virus at work, and, therefore, the type of vaccine required, could not be known

The optimist is as often wrong as the pessimist, but he is far happier.

until the outbreak had started. Also, no country free from the disease would accept British stock if vaccination were practised. The slaughter policy works well in Britain, provided immediate notification of the suspected presence of the disease is made. One reason for delay in notification during last year's outbreak was that insurance was not payable until 14 days after the premium had been paid!

The virus causing foot-and-mouth disease is thought to be carried to Britain from Europe by the spring migration of birds, chiefly starlings. The virus is very resistant and can be carried for thousands of miles, yet still be infective. Other possible sources are the importation of infected straw in packing cases, hides and wool and meat or bones. These latter are chiefly a source of infection when fed to pigs in the form of swill, though by law, swill must be thoroughly boiled before being fed to pigs.

It is clear that the problem caused by this disease must be tackled on an international basis. The international office of epizootics recommends that in those countries which practise vaccination, all the affected animals at the tail end of an epidemic be slaughtered. This policy to be combined with strict sanitary measures, and the vaccination, if possible, of in-contact animals, with a vaccine containing all types of the virus.

If this policy could be carried out, and let's hope it may be soon, then the scourge of foot-and-mouth disease will be removed from the surface of the earth and veterinarians and farmers the world over relieved of one of their biggest headaches. ✓



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The Country Boy and Girl



YOUR jack-o'-lantern may frighten a few people on Hallowe'en but many years ago (so a story goes) a jack-o'-lantern frightened away some attacking Indians. In the early days of Canada, all the settlers built their homes near a fort or blockhouse such as the one at Lower Fort Garry, about twenty miles north of Winnipeg. The settlers worked in their fields close to the fort but kept their guns close at hand. When a scout came riding in to report that the Indians were coming to attack the settlement, the women and children ran at once to the blockhouse.

One Hallowe'en night the settler's children made a jack-o'-lantern and had just lit the candle when a man came riding by shouting, "The Indians are coming up from the swamp, there is not time for you to go to the blockhouse." Because their father was not at home, the two oldest boys made the plans.

"Take the children, Mother, and hide them in the loft," they said. "We will wait here for father." Then at once they covered the fire so that its bright flames would not let the Indians discover them. Peering out the window into the darkness, the two boys could see black shadows moving from behind the trees. "Let us try to scare them with the jack-o'-lantern," one boy suggested, so they put the lighted jack-o'-lantern in the window. The Indians saw its shining eyes and grinning mouth.

"The Fire Spirit! The Fire Spirit!" they called in terror as they fled back into the woods, leaving the settlers in peace that night.

Ann Sankey

The Pigeon and the Pussycat

by Mary Grannan

MRS. PIGEON travelled extensively. She lived in a good neighborhood up town, but that did not deter her from looking around the more squalid sections of the city.

"One should know how others live," she said to Songsparrow one day. "That is why I fly down town, and across town every day. When one sees others less fortunate than one's self, one is more satisfied with one's lot in life."

"I suppose one is," laughed the sparrow, mimicking Mrs. Pigeon's manner of speaking. "And in what direction are you flying today?"

"I think I'll go down to the big grocery store at the corner of Main and Dell Streets. I often find delicious tidbits in the back yard there. Would you care to come with me?"

"No, I think not," said Songsparrow. "I'm flying to the woodland today. I promised to call on Mrs. Cedar Waxwing. I haven't seen her for many a day."

"Give her my regards," said Mrs. Pigeon, as she spread her wings and started her flight down town. Her course was direct, and the wind was right, so in a very few minutes she made a safe landing behind the big grocery store on Main Street. She walked pompously across the yard toward the big garbage can, which usually supplied her with the delicious tidbits. She hopped to the edge of the can. To her disappointment and amazement, the can was empty of food, but a tiny little grey kitten was crouching sadly within it, and was trying hopelessly to climb up its shining sides.

Mrs. Pigeon viewed the situation, and then said, "Little cat, stop jumping about. I think I can upset this garbage can by flying against it. You can help me by leaning heavily on

one side. I'll fly against the other side, and between us we should be able to turn it over."

The pigeon was right. Their united efforts did cause the can to flip over on one side. It rolled a short distance, whirling the kitten around and around, but when it came to a stop against the warehouse, the tiny cat staggered out.

"I do hope you're not hurt," said Mrs. Pigeon, strutting toward the little cat. "At least you've got your feet on the ground. How on earth did you get into that garbage can, anyway?"

"I don't know," said the dazed little kitten. "I opened my eyes a little while ago, and there I was."

"Have you no home?" asked Mrs. Pigeon.

"No," said the kitten. "Please, may I live with you? You are very kind. I would like to live with you."

Mrs. Pigeon smiled. "Thank you, Little Cat," she said, "but you could not possibly live with me. I live in a nest in a church steeple. But this is no place for you either. I am sure I could find a good home for such a pretty kitten, if you were up town. It is too far, however, for you to walk."

Just then the big grocery truck backed into the yard. Mrs. Pigeon had an idea. "In a little while," she said, "that truck will be going up town. As soon as it is loaded with groceries, you climb aboard. I will fly along beside it, all the way, and when we get up town, I'll find a little girl for you."

They waited together until the truck was reloaded, then the kitten climbed aboard and crawled into the back of the truck. Soon the truck was on its way, rolling northwards, with its load. It stopped three houses from the church in which Mrs. Pigeon had her nest. She flew to the back of the truck before the driver left his seat

in the cab. "Jump! Jump," she said.

The kitten jumped to the soft green grass that bordered the roadway. "This is a lovely place," he said to the pigeon, as he looked about him.

"Yes, it is a very nice street. Now, you go hide behind that honeysuckle bush over there on the lawn. I'll take a look around for a nice little girl."

Very soon she saw a pretty little girl wheeling her doll along in a big blue carriage. The doll sat loosely on top of its covers. Mrs. Pigeon had another idea. She hurried back to the honeysuckle bush.

"Little Cat," she said, "follow me. I've found the right little girl for you, just around the corner. She's wheeling her doll in a carriage. I'm going to swoop down and seize the doll. She'll run after me, and when I'm gone, you jump into her carriage and sit down. I'll give the doll back to her as soon as you're in the doll's carriage. When she goes back, she'll find you. The rest is up to you."

Everything worked out as Mrs. Pigeon had planned it. The little girl went screaming down the street after her flying doll. Mrs. Pigeon dropped it at her feet and flew to the church steeple to watch the result of her ruse.

A few minutes later, she saw the little girl bury her face in the soft grey fur of the little kitten, and carry him into the low red brick house with the blue shutters.

That afternoon, when the Little Cat went out of doors to thank the pigeon, the little girl saw them together, and she understood what had happened.

"Mrs. Pigeon, you brought this kitten to me," she laughed. "Mrs. Pigeon, I'm going to leave crumbs for you on the curb, every day."

"You know," said Mrs. Pigeon that night, as she and Songsparrow enjoyed the biscuit on the curb, "it is a peculiar thing, but when one helps someone else, one also seems to help one's self, too."

Sketch Pad Out-of-Doors

No. 20 in series—by CLARENCE TILLENIUS



A WORD much used by artists—and often misunderstood by the layman—is "action." As used by the artist, it does not necessarily mean something in violent motion. It may also denote a natural or "live" drawing.

The accompanying quick sketch is an example. "Action?" one might ask. "Why, he is doing nothing but sitting still, looking into the campfire." True. But that is just what the artist intended—to convince you that he is gazing into the fire—that is the "action" of the sketch. If the pose is not natural, you will immediately sense something stiff or strained about the drawing. This, the artist must be on guard against, always.

To achieve a sense of relaxed solidity, in a drawing, demands strong concentration and a sharp eye for observation. The slope of the shoulders, the bend of the head, the clasped hands and the placing of the feet—each and all play a part in conveying

the impression of a man, resting and relaxed.

Incidentally, the model for this sketch was visiting us at a beach cottage while I worked on drawings to illustrate Paul Annixter's serial story "Swiftwater." He posed one night by a small campfire, built for the purpose. I drew by the light of a flashlight. However, the campfire was unsatisfactory, since it died down one minute and flared up the next, which of course altered the shape of the shadows each succeeding second.

The flickering campfire certainly created wonderful atmosphere but a clear, steady light on the model is much easier to draw by. This might be provided by a lantern, electric light or a sheltered candle. Still George was a patient and excellent model and even the ever-present mosquitoes failed to daunt him. He has since escaped back to his native Ontario. From his genial (though rare) letters I gather that he bears me no grudge.

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Two-Price Devices

BRITAIN'S "standard price" to British wheat growers as a whole, will be \$2.27 for wheat of the 1954 harvest. Similar standard prices are established for barley, oats and rye. The long awaited scheme for marketing grains was announced in mid-September, and represents a significant move in the process of returning the trade in grain from bulk purchase by the government to the open market.

The standard price will not apply directly to each individual farmer, nor will it work in the same way for all four cereals. The standard price represents what the British government believes will guarantee a fair average return to the producers of each grain. It will work most simply with rye; it will vary seasonally with wheat; and will be applied on an acreage basis for oats and barley, but the principle is the same. The farmer will sell his grain in the open market for what he can get for it. All sales will be recorded, and the average of all sales will then be calculated by the government. The government will then pay to all growers, as a "deficiency payment," the amount per cwt. (112 lbs.) by which the average price is less than the guaranteed minimum or "standard" price.

If the grower has sold his grain for less than the average price, he will obviously receive, in all, less than the standard price. If he is a skillful marketer, he may secure more than the average price on the open market, which, with the deficiency payment added, would finally bring him more than the standard price.

A system of deficiency payments was operated under the Wheat Act of 1932, but the necessary money was secured at that time by making a levy on flour sales. The standard prices for both wheat and rye of the 1954 crop are unchanged from the prices currently guaranteed to the British producer: those for oats and barley are a little higher.

BRITAIN is a small, island country with a dense population, which she can never expect to feed entirely from home-grown products. She is understandably anxious to secure maximum production, both as to quantity and quality. The United States, on the other hand, is a country of vast area, capable of large surplus production, and with a very large wheat surplus presently available. Under her price support program it has cost the U.S. taxpayer \$600 million to support wheat prices during the last four years. She, too, as was pointed out on this page last month, is discussing and seriously considering a two-price system for the disposal of her wheat crops. Under it, the producer would be allotted a quota of wheat representing his share of domestic requirements. For this quantity he would receive a guaranteed price equal to a high percentage of parity—possibly 100 per cent. The balance of his crop would be disposed of on the world market for what it would bring.

Several arguments are advanced in favor of such a scheme. It is suggested that it would: (1) be easier on the Treasury; (2) eliminate awkward control programs; (3) encourage balanced production; (4) help to expand world trade; (5) lower prices to the needy of other countries; and (6) enable low-cost producers to remain in fairly full production. Viewed from the point of view of the United States, these arguments appear at least plausible.

BUT what of Canada? We have had a two-price market—Class I and Class II wheat—but a single price to the producer. With Britain protecting her home producer and buying the remainder of her requirements as cheaply as she can on the world market, and with the American producer guaranteed a high price for domestic requirements—say two-thirds of his crop—and selling his surplus for

what it will bring on the world market, it would appear that the efficient U.S. grower could keep right on seeding as many acres as he liked, with the assurance of a reasonable price for at least as much wheat as he has produced in recent years.

Under such circumstances, it could well be that Canadian producers would be forced to cut either acreage, or costs, or both. Some growers on comparatively small acreages, who have allowed themselves to become too dependent on wheat, could well do both. The large-scale, efficient producer would probably do neither. Under any such circumstances, some comparatively sharp changes in crop production on the prairies might well be anticipated. To the extent that more efficient moisture conservation and weed control, or improved fertilizer practices, or better seed and improved varieties will help, such improvements might even be made in advance.

The two-price idea is not now confined to Britain. It is operating under various guises in other European countries, in Australia, in Argentina, and, of course, in Soviet Russia. Is it our destiny to become two-priced the world over, and perhaps two-faced also? V

The Truth Will Out

SOME years ago, after the collectivization of Russian agriculture had been well established and the laws of heredity revised in a manner satisfactory to the Politburo, we began to receive from somewhere in the United States, regular batches of news items dealing with the immense strides that were being made by Russian scientists under the inspired leadership of Lysenko, the master geneticist of the Soviet regime. We read of horses bigger and more powerful than any in the western world, cows that gave remarkable quantities of milk and butterfat, crops that grew taller, faster, and yielded more, than crops ever yielded before. After a time our own imagination was taxed to the point where it failed us completely, and we were compelled to turn again to the more modest achievements of our own scientists in the western world.

For the last decade or two it has required a special kind of gullibility to swallow the pretensions of the U.S.S.R. with respect to agricultural progress. Reliable statistics have been almost nonexistent. Now, it appears that the Central Committee of the Communist Party has been told by its top agriculturist, Nikita Khrushchev, that the whole business has been shot through with inaccuracies and falsification of reports. Livestock in the U.S.S.R. is approximately nine million head fewer than when collectivization first began. Grain yields are not calculated in actual yield, but estimated from the standing crop; and even so are no more than seventeen bushels per acre even when calculated on the metric quintal of 220.4 pounds. If measured by the British quintal this figure would be nearly halved. In addition to these comparative failures it is known that the withdrawal of incentives from the peasants has been responsible for much dissatisfaction. This is now recognized in Moscow by the promise of higher prices and fairer treatment.

These recent revelations illustrate very strikingly the lesson taught throughout all history, namely that where ruthless rulers stultify and ignore the hopes and aspirations which in some form characterize all peoples, real progress is made difficult if not impossible. Enlightened self-interest compels the encouragement of a maximum freedom that is consistent with the rights of others. V

Canada and GATT

IT would be both wrong and unfair to say that all roads in world trade lead either to London or Washington. Nevertheless, Britain and the United States are the world's two most important trading nations. The importance attached by nearly all countries to trade with the United States has been highlighted since the Republican administration took office a year ago. Canada, among other countries, has regretted the tendency of the Congress to modify existing trade agreements under the General Agreements on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

The GATT conference held in Geneva, Switzerland, last month involved 33 member nations. Delegates were confronted with the renewal, or otherwise, of the concessions achieved on the thousands of items in the comparatively short time since GATT came into existence. The attitude taken by Canada, speaking through our Minister of Trade and Commerce, the Right Honorable C. D. Howe, was both expedient and proper. The conference was faced with the fact that while the United States had renewed the Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act, renewal was subject to the understanding that no major negotiations would take place until after the whole question of U.S. foreign trade relations had been reviewed by a special commission set up by the president. Canada favored a review of the general agreement itself, but urged that such a review should be postponed for at least a year, and that meanwhile the existing agreements should be extended for that period.

Canada, in the short space of 60 years, has achieved third place among the world's trading nations. A recent review of progress by the Department of Trade and Commerce recalls that in 1892 Canada's total exports amounted to \$99 million as compared with \$4,300 million in 1952. Canada, then, was very definitely a minor trading nation, and it is worthy of note that animals and animal products accounted for almost thirty per cent of our trade.

Canada's first commercial agencies were established after 1885. Today the trade commissioner's service involves 48 offices and over 100 officers. Records are kept in all offices on some 4,000 regular Canadian exporting firms, and the Foreign Tariffs Division maintains up-to-date tariff and other relevant information required for export to 200 separate customs areas of the world.

Our interest in broadening world trade and in the continuation of GATT is therefore very keen. The broader the base that can be secured for Canada's growing productive capacity, the greater the measure of security assured to all Canadians. V

Rural Electrification

IN Canada since the close of World War II the production of electrical energy, in terms of kilowatt hours, has increased by more than 50 per cent, according to a recent business review by the Bank of Montreal. At the end of 1952 there was developed generating capacity amounting to 15.7 million horsepower, or more than one horsepower for each Canadian. While our gross national production in 1939-39 dollars was increasing from \$9.3 billion in 1945, to \$11.5 billion in 1952, our electrical power production was going up from 40.1 billion kilowatt hours to 61.7 billion kw/h.

A careful summary of the situation indicates that by the end of 1953, electricity will be in use on approximately 80,000 prairie farms, or something less than one-third of the total. These include approximately 39,000 farms in Manitoba, 18,000 in Saskatchewan, and 23,500 in Alberta. Though slow to begin, progress in all three provinces at the present time is reasonably satisfactory. Saskatchewan was the last to initiate a rural electrification program, but is aiming at approximately 6,500 new farm services per year. Alberta is electrifying farms at the rate of about 5,000 per year, so that in three more years, both provinces will approximate Manitoba's present total.

Experience with rural electrification has been much the same everywhere. Preliminary estimates of the amount of electricity used are soon out. The tendency is to use about two-thirds of the total kilowatt hours in the home, and the balance for productive farm enterprises. Evidence is accumulating, however, that these proportions might well be reversed in the course of time, especially in areas of diversified agriculture.

Electrical energy on Canadian farms is low-cost labor. As such, it is an economical method of reducing the amount of back work in farming, while at the same time adding materially to the comfort and convenience of farm living. For a natural force which not even the physicists seem to fully understand, it possesses one outstanding virtue not always creditable to human beings: it improves on acquaintance, and as its versatility is more fully appreciated.